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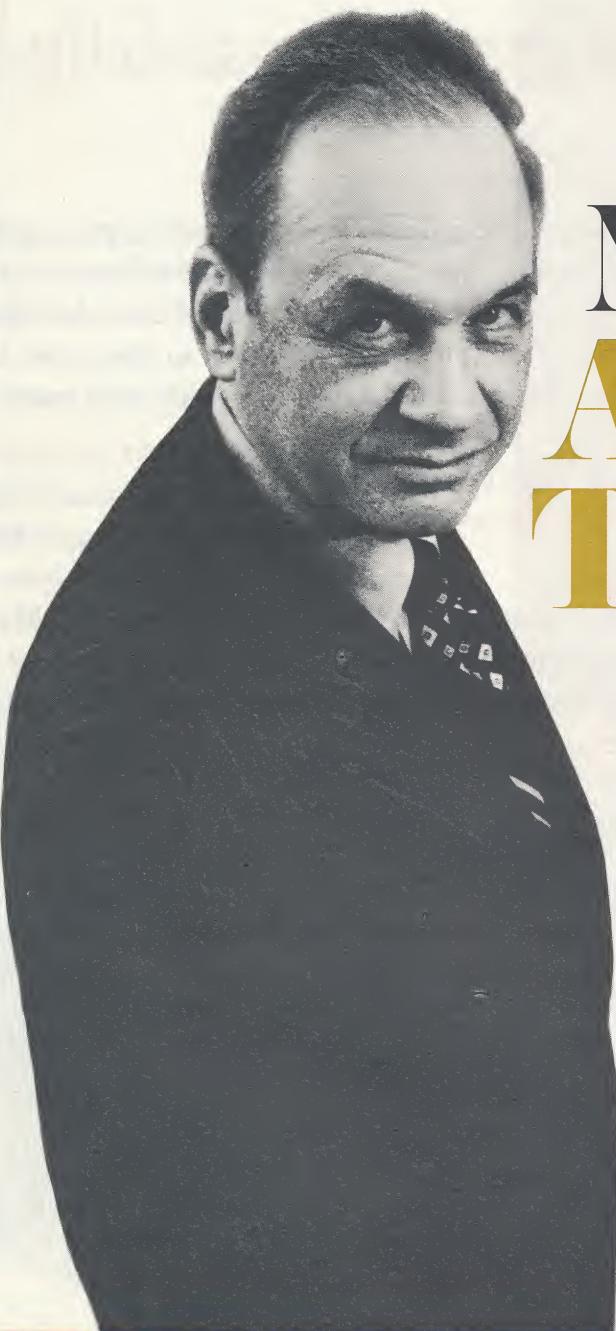
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The entertaining sequel to *Strictly Speaking*



Edwin Newman A CIVIL TONGUE

"Consistently
first-rate fun . . . The author of
the witty best seller
Strictly Speaking goes to the well
once more—and returns brimming
with wry observations."

—*Publishers Weekly*

NBC photo

ALSO AVAILABLE FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION . . . A fresh appraisal of P.E.T.
—Dr. Thomas Gordon's revolutionary theory of child rearing—based on interviews
with parents who have taken his course.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR DETAILS

Newman delivers a civil tongue-lash to everyone who speaks un-strictly &

WHAT has happened to the mother tongue since *Strictly Speaking*? Such words as input, output and thruput are impacting more than wisdom teeth. Détente is out and dialogue's in (preferably between consenting adults). Meaningful relationships have made way for mutual cooperation—unless the co-operees are engaged in eyeballing each other in a friendly confrontation.

THE NAMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

Typing pools have become word-processing centers. Classrooms are learning stations. Murder is an escalated interpersonal altercation. And the victim is buried in human interment space. Journalists are playing in the "major" league (*The New York Times* finds "major milestone" fit to print), while politicians search for consensus (as long as it's broad or general).

THE "IZE" HAVE IT

The "un's" (uncotton, unleather, unreal) and the "non's" (non-dairy creamer) have become viable concepts. The proliferation of "ize" is especially astounding. (Among

the "ize"-sayers are Jimi Hendrix, who urged the Democrats to "turn on, tune in, drop out"; Gerald Ford, who reported that he "looked forward to the day when I look in your eyes, and you will be able to see me"; and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, who begged his audience to "beg with your mind, think with your heart, and act with your hands."

SON OF STRICTLY S

Edwin Newman damns the "ize"-sayers in his new book, *Strictly Speaking: The Son of a Tongue*. Each chapter— from "The Worst Kind" to "My Side of the Story"—is maximized in its妙处, and the author's wit and witlessness are on full display. In the end, Newman will make it clear that the sorry state of the English language is not the fault of the English, but of the English-speaking world.

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95

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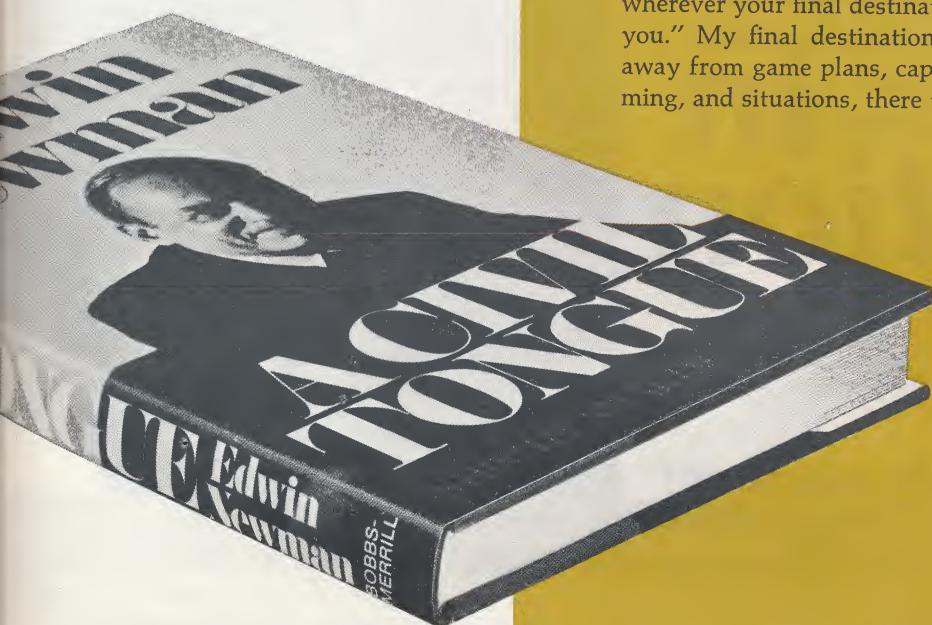


ning nglish-wise

Jimmy Carter, who is said to have
prioritized their platform, and
tely told a GOP group: "Really,
I plead with your hearts, and I
at you maximize your efforts.")

PEAKING

this flood of redundancy, super-
and slippery language in *A Civil
from "A Fatal Slaying of the Very
lf Will Be Back After This Mes-
terms of risibility. Or, to put it
ake you laugh until you cry over
glish language.*



What do Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Time magazine and Mary Hartman have in common?

"HIGH crimes and misdemeanors" against the American language, alleges Edwin Newman. But they're certainly not the only offenders, as the following excerpts from *A Civil Tongue* will illustrate.

Washington churns out its usual nonsense. The Chief of the United States Capitol Police posts a notice: "Vehicles will be parked chronologically as they enter the lot." 1975 models in this corner, and 1973 models over there. . . . United Press International quotes an assistant to Vice President Rockefeller: "Ford not only let the Rockefeller juggernaut come down from New York, but has us in his stable now." The juggernaut, which had to lower its head to get in, is given the stall next to the Ford bandwagon. . . .

In Kansas City, Missouri, television viewers are told about "the heavy storm system that performed over our area last night." Music by Rossini. Businessmen chip in: "We have exceptional game plan capabilities together with strict concerns for programming successful situations." An airline stewardess urges her passengers to "have a nice day in Cincinnati or wherever your final destination may be taking you." My final destination is taking me far away from game plans, capabilities, programming, and situations, there to have a nice day.

A fresh look
at the results of
"a national movement"**
to improve parent-
child relations—
featuring scores
of case studies
and interviews

Dr. Thomas Gordon
P.E.T.
in
Action

*The New York Times

MORE than 250,000 parents have now taken courses in Dr. Gordon's Parent Effectiveness Training and nearly 1 million copies of his first P.E.T. book have been sold. How to explain this success? Obviously, many parents who have undergone P.E.T. believe that its techniques really work—not only in helping them deal with everyday problems, from toilet training to teenage rebellion, but also in fostering a more cooperative and loving atmosphere in the home—and have spread the word to other parents. But precisely what happened in such homes while the program was being followed—and after?

Now Dr. Gordon, a clinical psychologist, takes a new look at P.E.T. on the firing line, focusing on the actual experiences of more than ninety families in which at least one parent was a graduate of his course.

First, Dr. Gordon reviews (and expands) the basic P.E.T. philosophy and describes the specific skills that parents must master to utilize the approach: Active Listening, I-Messages, No-Lose Conflict Resolution and more. Then, drawing on the experiences of graduates and their families—and often quoting their actual words—Dr. Gordon breaks important new ground. He pinpoints areas where parents seem to have the most trouble, suggests new situations in which P.E.T. techniques can be useful and provides invaluable information for dealing with value conflicts—usually the most difficult to resolve.

"It has revolutionized our family life," said one mother of P.E.T. Thousands of other practitioners have had the same experience. For anyone concerned with raising more responsible, loving and humane children, Dr. Gordon's new book will prove even more informative and practical than his first.

[Publisher's list price: \$10.95] PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$8.95

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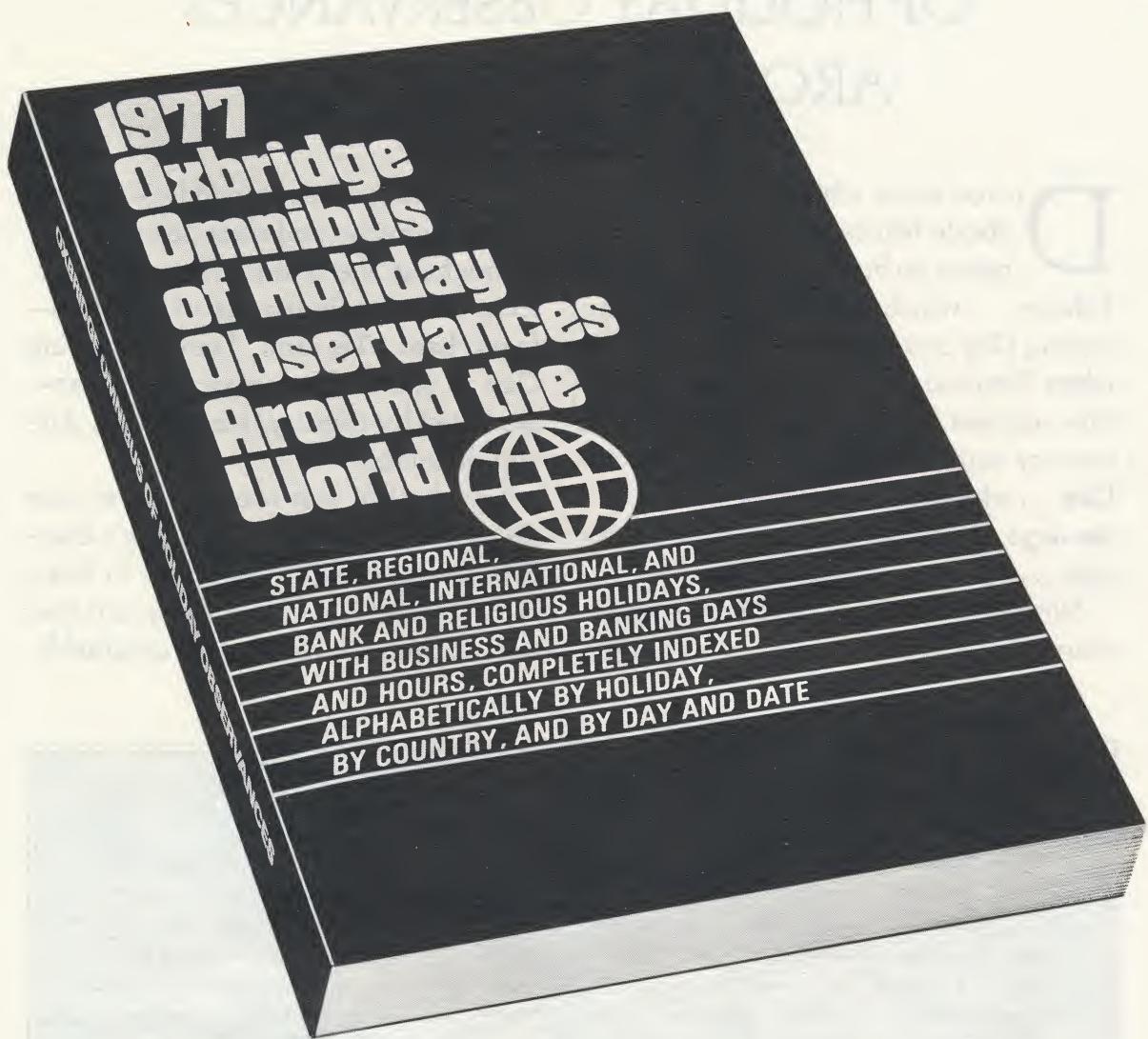


CAMP HILL, PENNSYLVANIA 17012

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AN INFORMATIVE **EXTRA*** THIS MONTH

...a highly useful guide to the world's major holidays, holy days, feasts, festivals and other celebrations



A copy will be sent **WITHOUT CHARGE**
to every member who takes the main Selection... or
any book (other than a Book-Dividend) listed in
the accompanying issue of the *Book-of-the-Month Club News*

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Something to celebrate...

1977 OXBRIDGE OMNIBUS OF HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES AROUND THE WORLD

Do you know which countries celebrate Mother's Day . . . when banks do business in Tokyo and Tehran . . . which nationalities observe Boxing Day and Blessed Rainy Day . . . when Bermuda's Cup Matches begin this summer . . . which Scandinavian country marks American Independence Day . . . why the Chinese have no names for days of the week or months of the year . . . ?

Now all this information (and reams more) can be at your fingertips with this

useful listing of major holidays in nearly 300 countries and their dependencies throughout the world. For easy reference, literally thousands of holidays—from Lent, Tet and Tomb-Sweeping Day to Rose Monday and Ramadan—are listed by country, state, name, date and definition.

So whether you need a fact or two about Tobago's Carnival, Chile's business hours, Buddhist holidays in India or Farmer's Day in Florida, you'll find this sourcebook handy and invaluable.

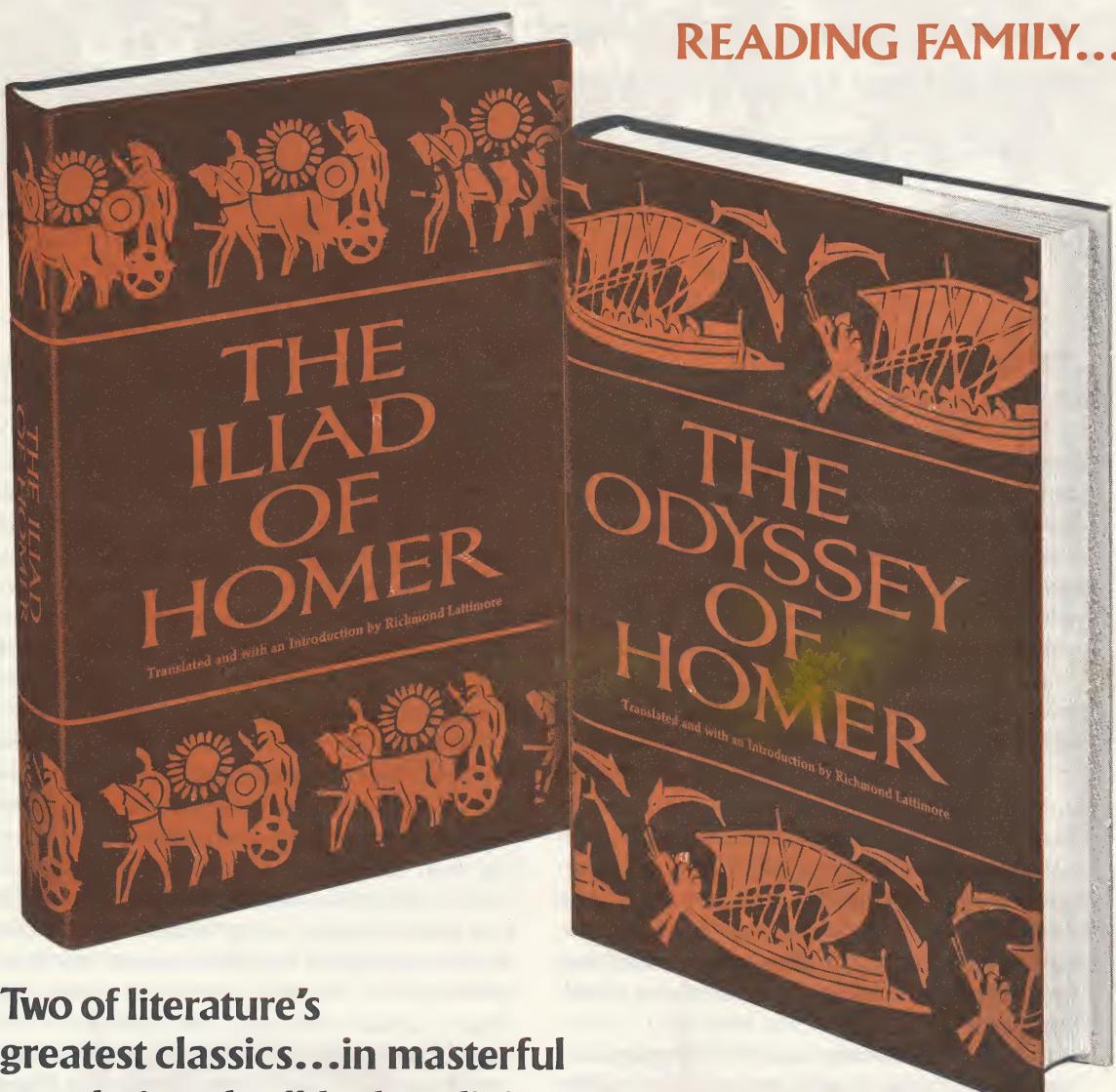
"PRO BONO PUBLICO" • *An Explanation for New Members*

AS OLDER members know, every now and then the Club comes upon a book which seems to call for especially wide dissemination—either because of the unusual social or historical importance of its subject matter or, as in this case, because it contains information of practical use to our members. The first of these "Pro Bono Publico" books—as we have termed them—was John Hersey's *Hiroshima*, distributed in 1946. Subsequent ones have ranged from the *Warren Commission Report* on the assassination of President Kennedy to a full account of the historic moon landing in July, 1969.

Over the years, the Club has found that by far the best method of carrying out this objective of wide distribution is to send a copy at no charge with any book purchased during a given period.

Please Note: A copy of the *1977 Oxbridge Omnibus of Holiday Observances Around the World*, in a paperback edition, will be sent to all members taking a book this month, whether or not they are presently entitled to receive Book-Dividends. Those who are entitled will, as usual, earn a Book-Dividend Credit for any book they order from the accompanying *News*.

AN IMPORTANT NEW Book-Dividend® THAT
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Two of literature's
greatest classics...in masterful
translations by "the best living
translator of Greek poetry into English"

"Professor Lattimore has reanimated Homer for this generation,
and perhaps for other generations to come"

—*The Times Literary Supplement* (London)

[Publishers' list prices total: \$25.90]
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"Richmond Lattimore's complete *Homer* is indeed a splendid achievement... much the best translation there is of a great, perhaps the greatest, poet"

—The New York Times Book Review



REPORT BY GILBERT HIGHET

THE *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* are the oldest complete poems in the Western world. No one knows for certain who composed them, or even whether they were written by one man, or two, or more. Some of the finest Greek temples and some great cathedrals of the Middle Ages were planned and constructed by a succession of architects whose very names are lost. For these poems we have at least a traditional name, Homer; but the ancient Greeks themselves did not know exactly where "Homer" lived, or when. What they were sure of was that the two epics (although occasionally flawed) were works of unique genius. In this, nearly all later generations (if they could read Homer in the original) have agreed with them. There are other noble epics in the Western languages—the *Aeneid*, the *Divine Comedy*, *Paradise Lost*. Some of them equal or surpass the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* in certain ways; in others, all fall far behind.

Homer is a supreme master of language. No poet except Shakespeare has ever been able to do so many things with words; and Shakespeare (unlike Homer) often mixes up beauty and silliness in a way that drives sensitive people to distraction. It is only recently that we have been able to understand more clearly where Homer's magnificent language comes from. It was partly produced and transmitted to him by hundreds of poets who sang epic songs during the centuries before his birth. These minstrels could not read or write, but they knew many tales of heroic adventure. Their songs were in part memorized, in part improvised. They were composed, as it were, anew every time and suited to each occasion

of performance. To use in their improvising, they had scores of traditional formulas, developed to fit into their rich and flexible meter: "rosy-fingered dawn," "swift-footed Achilles," "wily Odysseus." They had a stock of entire lines with which to bridge a gap or prepare for the next episode, like *And it came to pass* in the Bible. They had worked out many different patterns to describe certain recurrent events: the preparation of a feast, the arming of a warrior, the advance of an army, the lament for a dead hero. Homer, coming at the end of many centuries of successful experimentation and increasingly versatile improvisation, took over the skills of his myriad predecessors and infused into them his own creative and architectonic genius. Johann Sebastian Bach could improvise for two whole hours, using traditional material (a hymn-tune) and traditional patterns (choral prelude, trio, fugue) on an instrument, the organ, whose structure and technique had been elaborated by many previous musicians, and through his own genius bring into being a huge masterpiece of music. That is roughly how we should think of Homer composing the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*.

He is also a master psychologist. Again Shakespeare comes to mind. Shakespeare created more characters and more widely different characters; but none finer, none more intensely human. Nor are Homer's men and women conventional. They have many dimensions and many internal conflicts. King Agamemnon looks noble and speaks grandly, but he is stubborn and shortsighted and suffers for it. Helen is beautiful and desirable but (as she herself says) a bitch. Achilles is hand-



some and strong and fearless, but detestably cruel until the very end of the *Iliad*, when he, unpredictably but understandably, changes. Odysseus is valiant and resourceful, and after almost endless wanderings and sufferings wins an all but impossible victory; but he lies a lot, and he weeps a lot. Readers in the baroque age, the era of palaces and periwigs, could not understand that or sympathize with it. For them, a king always had to be grand and serene, as faultless and emotionless as a marble bust. For us, however, the complexity and the imperfections of Homer's characters are among their principal charms. On a larger scale, and moving in a simpler (though not less cruel) world, they are men and women like us.

Homer's two poems have been translated into English many times. They must be translated again every time our language and our conceptions of poetic style and our appreciation of Homer himself are radically changed. Pope, writing in the cool, neat, correct eighteenth century, put them into five-beat rhyming couplets, which are elegant enough but keep interrupting the flow of Homer's narrative and the surging impetuous speeches of his heroes. It is hard to run in high heels. That swashbuckling poet Chapman, Shakespeare's admired contemporary, turned Homer into long, swinging seven-beat couplets, which, although rhyming, move far more freely than Pope's. (That is partly why his version was a

revelation and an inspiration to young John Keats. "Then felt I like some watcher of the skies/When a new planet swims into his ken.") But he cut out sections he disliked and added little digressions of his own; and his language is partly obsolete, and his Homer is not ours. Until quite recently, Greekless readers who found Chapman archaic and Pope stilted had to make do with two prose versions produced in the late nineteenth century by the Scottish poet and anthropologist Andrew Lang, with three learned collaborators: clear, and correct, and dignified, but in prose, which is not poetry, not even like poetry.

Now Richmond Lattimore has enriched our literature with a fine translation of Homer into loose modern verse not hobbled by rhyme or restricted by convention. He knows Greek very well indeed, far better than most previous translators; and he is not only a scholar but a good poet who has written some lovely lyrics. Therefore his version is correct, and it is also poetic. You should not expect it to be fully "modern" except in rhythmical structure. Homer's language was sometimes difficult for the "classical" Greeks themselves, in the same way that parts of the Hebrew scriptures contain strange unparalleled words and turns of phrase. Yet, for wise men and women, there is something noble in the antique. Modern in technique, up-to-date in scholarship, Richmond Lattimore has in his translation of Homer preserved that nobility.

THE ILIAD OF HOMER

527 pages • Glossary • Introduction and Foreword by RICHMOND LATTIMORE

THE ODYSSEY OF HOMER

374 pages • Glossary • Introduction by RICHMOND LATTIMORE

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A connoisseur's collection of 150 authentic Northern Italian recipes. Besides such classic fare as Prosciutto e Melone, Cannelloni, Osso Buco alla Milanese and Zabaione, there are also a number of rarities like Sfogie in Saor (Marinated Fillet of Sole with Raisins and Pine Nuts) and Cappone Arroste con le Noci (Roast Capon with Walnut Stuffing) seldom or never encountered in English-language cookbooks. Illustrated.

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By James C. Fernald, L.H.D.

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By Roberta Pliner

Everything the plant-lover-who-hates-to-work-at-it needs to know. Tells how to shop for and select plants that are both easy to care for and right for your home environment—also which plants to avoid. Offers a no-nonsense program of routine plant care plus clear, simple directions for doing

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By Marian Maeve O'Brien

Discusses the many different types of dollhouses, both antique and modern, available to the collector. Includes chapters on miniature furniture; miniature metallics; ceramic, porcelain and glass miniatures; miniature art; miniature accessories. Also provides lists of notable collections and exhibits, craftsmen and dealers throughout the U.S. 231 black-and-white photographs, 17 color plates.

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A FRANK AND FUNNY NOVEL
OF LOVE AND ADULTERY IN EXURBIA
BY ONE OF AMERICA'S FINEST NOVELISTS

MARRY ME



JOHN UPDIKE

Marry Me
A Novel

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JOHN UPDIKE TRIUMPHANTLY RETURNS TO THE EROTIC LANDSCAPE OF HIS BEST-SELLING COUPLES

THE time is 1962 and John F. Kennedy is president. The setting is an Eden-like fiefdom of Camelot named Greenwood, Connecticut. And the protagonists (surely two of John Updike's more memorable creations) are Jerry Conant and Sally Mathias, who are deeply in love and planning to marry—save for the inconvenient fact that each is already married to someone else.

Bittersweet and nostalgic, Jerry's and Sally's romance unfolds in the now all-but-forgotten world of the 1960s—"the twilight of the old morality"—where, as Jerry notes, "there's just enough to torment us, and not enough to hold us in." Around the nucleus of this story revolve the lives of their respective spouses, Ruth and Richard (who, it should be noted, have also enjoyed a brief fling at adultery themselves).

Following the twists and turns, problems and posturings of four likable people caught up in a sometimes painful, often funny situation, the author of *Couples*, *Rabbit Redux* and *A Month of Sundays* shows once again why he has become one of America's most popular novelists.

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MIDWINTER 1977

NEWS



THE MIDWINTER SELECTION

“The best book on the fascinating subject of 20th-century royalty
to come to your judges’ attention”

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NEWS®

MIDWINTER 1977

THE MIDWINTER SELECTION

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COVER PHOTO: Pictorial Parade

A full-length family portrait of three kings and a queen—George V, Edward VIII (Duke of Windsor), George VI and Elizabeth II—and of their privileged way of life. "For sheer old-fashioned readability...one of the most recommendable books we have offered our members in many months."

REPORT BY Clifton Fadiman

EVEN the most Jacobinical among us finds it hard to repress the pleasure of reading about royalty. It is shamelessly human, evidencing the charm exerted by what is non-rational in important human affairs. After all, what could be more patently absurd, in a technological age, than a king or a queen? In an institution which, as Mr. Lacey says, "represents illogicality refined to a high degree," what computer would assign any high quantitative value to the services of a constitutional monarch? Yet a number of countries happily persist in supporting their rulers in high style; and the human race as a whole seems no less happy to read about these glamorous relics.

This is partly the basis of the extraordinary appeal of *Majesty*. For sheer old-fashioned

Robert Lacey

Majesty

ELIZABETH II
AND THE
HOUSE OF WINDSOR



Portrait of Elizabeth II by Pietro Annigoni

readability it proposes itself as one of the most recommendable books we have offered our members in many months. Indeed, your judges believe that it is the best book on the fascinating subject of 20th-century royalty to come to their attention.

But Mr. Lacey's examination of the House of Windsor goes beyond the usual smarmy court biography. What makes this book distinctive is its fairness, its willingness to consider the claims of anti-monarchism, and the sharp cutting edge of its treatment of such unattractive royal personages as, among others, the Duke of Windsor.

What Elizabeth does and how she does it is interesting; but she herself (though a superior Hanoverian, which is faint praise) is not more than moderately so. Mr. Lacey quotes an astute remark by one of Elizabeth's staff: "Our capital

is stuffiness. We don't exist to divert or convert people. We Are." This may be put a bit more amiably: Elizabeth was, from the day her father, George VI, died at the age of 56, willing, even eager, to be an institution, for that was what most of her people wanted. She is the present head of "the least cultivated dynasty to rule over any nation in modern history." She knows this, and makes no pretenses. Her virtues are not glamorous: the acceptance of responsibility, conscientiousness, a devotion to *duty*. She is—Mr. Lacey's repeated phrase—"a good girl." At the same time, her goodness—that is, her attachment to orthodox conduct—is quite different from the unpleasant, narrow-minded, selfish rigidity of her great-great-grandmother Victoria, whom she resembles in other particulars, especially the capacity "to be an inspiring old queen."

32 PAGES OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Publisher's list price: \$12.95 PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$9⁹⁵

MR. LACEY's book, while focusing on Elizabeth, paints a fascinating family portrait. We have George V, who, as Duke of York, for seventeen years "did nothing at all but kill animals and stick in stamps." (The telling phrase is Harold Nicolson's.) Second in influence after her parents was Queen Mary. It would not have seemed possible for Queen Mary to compose an interesting sentence. But she could. Mr. Lacey quotes her major grievance with Hitler—that the man "spoke such abominable German." There is a sensitive treatment of George VI, "Boy Scout of British monarchs," a stammerer, far from bright, inhibited but decent, brave, impeccable in his conduct during the war. There was, Mr. Lacey says, so much doubt, when George V died, of Elizabeth's father's competence that, according to some reports, it was planned to confer the crown on the youngest of George's sons, the Duke of Kent. Had this occurred, there would have been no Elizabeth II and no book by Mr. Lacey. It was her father's family that molded Elizabeth's "formal public identity," as her mother influenced her warmer, more personal aspect.

ELIZABETH'S marriage to Prince Philip of Greece was only in minor part dynastic. From all the evidence she fell in love with him when she was 13 and he 18. It took a little time, but the young girl's resolution never wavered; and the union, as such unions go, appears to have been a happy one. (Mr. Lacey's description of the wedding is a fine set piece.) While still retaining his subordinate role, "a footstep behind his wife," Philip has managed to make of himself something a little more than a royal representative. He has injected into the house of Hanover—generally decorous, occasionally delinquent—a small infusion of breezy directness and informality.

What appears to be fresh treatment is given to Elizabeth's childhood years; her education, largely by "Crawfie," who, having published indiscreetly, is now taboo; Elizabeth's handling of the Margaret Rose-Peter Townsend affair; her relations with Churchill (who may have been



George V and Queen Mary, accompanied by their granddaughter, Princess Elizabeth, on their way to Westminster Abbey in June, 1934. Behind the King, his wife's lady-in-waiting, Mabell Lady Airlie.

half in love with her), Macmillan, Home and Wilson; her calm riding out of the 1970 storm over the royal budget and expenditures; the royal tours; and the daily schedule, far heavier than that of most successful businessmen and never relieved by three-martini lunches.

PERHAPS the most interesting sections of the book deal not so much with Elizabeth herself as with the effect on a young child of Edward VIII's abdication. From the egregious conduct of her uncle she learned—and it was the most important single lesson of her life—"how *not* to behave when one is blessed with the sacred trust of monarchy." Mr. Lacey, while well mannered and sticking to a cool recital of the facts—including those only recently uncovered—clearly sees Edward for what he was: self-indulgent and irresponsible in his youth and early middle age, something far worse than that in his postabdication maturity. As for la Simpson, Mr. Lacey goes to the heart of the matter: "She had no idea of how to behave in the circle to which she so nakedly aspired." Reading Mr. Lacey's account of Windsor's general behavior and then matching it with Simpson's, one reaches the conclusion that they were made for each other.



Princess Elizabeth with her father at the Royal Lodge in Windsor, 1942. The Monarch's "boxes" are on the table at right.



Queen Elizabeth walks past the Duke and Duchess of Windsor as she arrives at Marlborough House on June 7, 1967, to unveil a memorial plaque to the late Queen Mary.

Readers of serious history are familiar with the documents that demonstrate the real peril England and her allies faced by virtue of Windsor's fascist sympathies. It is useful to have the story rehearsed in a book intended for a wider public. In 1940, German agents contacted Windsor to suggest "collaboration." These agents, on Ribbentrop's instructions, discussed with him, over a two-week period, "the assumption of the English throne by the Duke and Duchess." According to these agents Windsor "had agreed upon a code word, upon receiving which he would immediately come back over." The reader of Mr. Lacey's cautious narrative may make up his own mind as to whether or not Windsor was prepared to become a quisling. The evidence hardly seems to favor him.

At any rate his entire conduct was most useful to Elizabeth. It instilled in her a vivid realization of the meaning of a word her uncle was too shallow to understand: *integrity*. "It has been Queen Elizabeth's study since 1936," writes Mr. Lacey, "to uphold all that the word implies."

IT IS difficult for an American (and for many Englishmen) to accept the fact that Elizabeth is what she is by an accident of birth; that

she is perhaps the richest person in the realm; and that her main function is a representative one, requiring no great gifts of intelligence or leadership. And yet, as we read Mr. Lacey's account of the growth of her understanding of her role ("Being royal was living out a role, not acting it"), we begin to sense the English rationale of the concept of majesty. Mr. Lacey quotes a study of the queen's coronation, made by two sociologists. One, an American, was surely no royalist. The other was a Labor Party man, conditioned to be skeptical of monarchy. They agreed in interpreting the coronation as "a great act of national communion."

Mr. Lacey's book is based, of course, not on interviews with the queen (royalty does not grant interviews) but clearly on close acquaintance with the royal set as well as on previous documentation. There is nothing official about it. Indeed there is a certain subtle edge to the treatment not only of Windsor but of Margaret Rose, Armstrong-Jones and other rather second-rate members of the royal entourage. Its main quality, perhaps, is that it satisfies our normal human curiosity about the nature, the daily life, the personality, of a bona fide monarch triumphantly doing her thing in a nonmonarchical era.

BEFORE Robert Lacey began his research for *Majesty*, he consulted another author who had written about the British monarchy, Andrew Duncan. "He told me two things were absolutely necessary. I had to get myself some decent printed stationery for corresponding with people I wished to interview, and I must never, never go near a royal public relations officer because they exist only to keep the public at arm's length.

"A few days later I wandered into a London stationery shop and saw samples of letterheads printed for various Middle Eastern embassies. I thought they were a bit garish. The man said he would show me something better if I promised not to tell anybody, and from a bottom drawer pulled out the notepaper for Windsor Castle. I told him mine had better not be *exactly* like that, but something pretty similar." Lacey was off to a good start.

Requests written on his discreetly impressive notepaper produced a few interviews. "I was lucky in that I began by talking to people about Edward VIII's abdication. The normal reticence of friends of the royal family doesn't apply to this period, because the Duke and Duchess of Windsor in their memoirs gave their own views, which don't correspond at all to what others near the palace remember. This was my first entree and it led to a lot of introductions. The English upper class have this wonderful habit of passing you on, if they trust you, from one to another. And I managed to avoid royal press officers until I was almost finished with the book."

The 33-year-old author and journalist interviewed more than forty persons with intimate knowledge of the workings of the British monarchy and the personality of the monarch. Because most of these conversations were off the record (not literally; they are on tapes securely cached in his agent's safe), Lacey refuses to say who his sources were. But it is asserted in London's publishing, political and court circles that they include past and present cabinet members (four of whom have been prime ministers), almost everyone of influence in Buckingham Palace (who would not have

ABOUT Robert Lacey

BY JIM HICKS

spoken to him without approval from the queen and some members of the royal family).

One story with enough currency to secure a mortgage at the credibility bank says that shortly after Lacey began work a trusted adviser of Elizabeth II, dining with the queen and Philip, told them of the author and his project. When the queen said she loathed having people write books about her, the adviser replied that Lacey already had his contract for the book, he was working hard and it might be wise to help him. "Yes, I suppose you're right," Elizabeth allegedly conceded. "You'd better see Mr. Lacey, Philip."

"No, no," Philip is said to have objected. "You know how I hate talking to journalists." It is reported that Her Majesty prevailed.

Lacey did not exactly turn white when I inquired as to the accuracy of such accounts as this (perhaps he is simply resigned to the impossibility of keeping secrets in London), but he steadfastly declined confirmation. All he would acknowledge for the record was that he did not interview the queen herself and that, while people very close to her had read his book and offered corrections of fact, the work was neither authorized nor approved by the palace. Not much of a damaging admission considering the well-known dreariness of palace-authorized biographies.

Lacey's background, by fate or happenstance, perhaps ideally qualifies him to write a popular biography of Britain's sovereign at this juncture in the nation's history. He embodies several of the elements of national life that are now in painful transition. A middle-class boy educated in state schools, he reached Cambridge University solely on merit. Failure to attain a first-class degree quashed his hopes of being an academic historian, and three unsuccessful campaigns for the presidency of the Cambridge Union—debating society and seedbed for future members of Parliament—shunted him away from politics.

Instead he went to work for the *Sunday Times* and simultaneously made himself a visible figure, a pacesetter—let's face it—a *trendy* on the swinging London scene. Lacey says all that is behind him now. He is the Swinging Sixties mover matured into the Sobered Seventies professional. But his trendy years, like his earlier and continuing commitment to history and politics, still serve him well. He knows what interests people.

Now Lacey is into quality workmanship, as his two creditable biographies of visible figures from an earlier Elizabethan age, the Earl of Essex and Sir Walter Raleigh, have demonstrated. For *Majesty* he functioned as an intellectual vacuum cleaner, supplementing his extensive interviews with facts and ideas sucked up from books, diaries, magazine archives, newspaper clipping files and, some say, anyone unwary enough to retail a prized personal royal anecdote in his presence. He verified and reverified what he read and heard—discovering, incidentally, that what people told him in taped interviews was much more likely to prove true than were newspaper stories.

Having "an instinctive mistrust of the mumbo jumbo of royalty," he began his task with a "cool, hard, critical attitude." He finished it with considerable respect for the queen. "She is an institution that matters to an enormous number of people and she works very, very hard to do her job. I'm still critical about one aspect: royal finances. It is not in her own interest in this era to be so wealthy and pay no taxes. That's a time bomb."

Putting his money where his mouth is, the author insists that despite the large sums *Majesty* is generating for him from throughout the world he will not exile himself from Britain to escape the country's excruciatingly high tax rates. "I couldn't make money by writing about the queen," Lacey says, "and then complain about paying her taxes."

Jim Hicks, a former correspondent for *Life*, is a free-lance writer who lives in England.

How the wily old "backwoods philosopher"

from Philadelphia won the most decisive battle of the American Revolution

Triumph in Paris *The Exploits of* Benjamin Franklin

David Schoenbrun

December, 1776: "All Paris was buzzing about
the arrival of the famous Dr. Franklin."

PARIS would continue to buzz about the colorful American diplomat for the next nine years. About his deliberately quaint mode of dress (fur hats "*à la Franklin*" were all the rage). About his flirtations with elegant court ladies (who called him "*cher papa*"). About his artful sallies against the British ambassador, Lord Stormont. About his friendships with Europe's most distinguished savants. And, above all, about his eloquent pleading on behalf of the American cause.

In this new biography David Schoenbrun offers a fascinating study of Benjamin Franklin's seemingly impossible mission to Paris—for could he really expect to win the autocratic French court over to the side of American revolutionaries? Using, among other sources,

Franklin's letters and journals and materials from the archives of the French foreign office, Schoenbrun shows how Franklin—surrounded by spies, plagued by quarrelsome colleagues and frustrated by the intricacies of European power politics—still managed to gain arms and allies for the fledgling United States.

While focusing on the events of the French court, Schoenbrun also keeps the reader abreast of parallel developments in America and Europe which, all too frequently, made Franklin's task more difficult—and his eventual victory an even greater triumph.

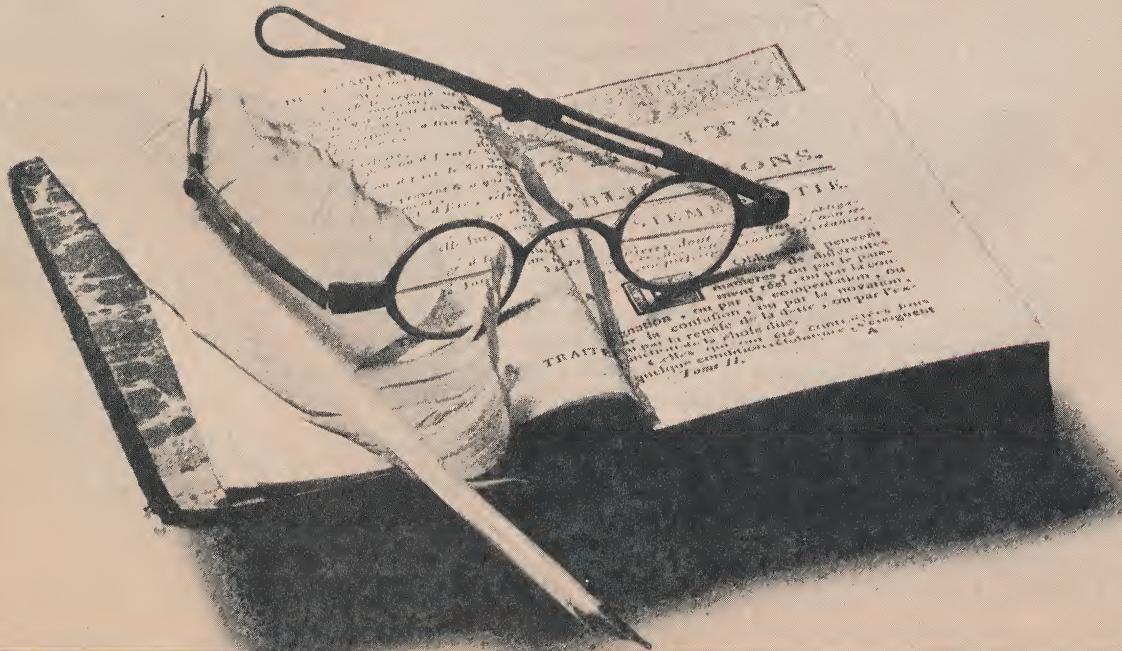
David Schoenbrun was chief correspondent for CBS in Paris and Washington for almost twenty years. He is the author of *As France Goes* and *The Three Lives of Charles de Gaulle*.

420 pages • index • bibliography

[Publisher's list price: \$15]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$10.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN





**David
McCullough's
EYE
ON
BOOKS**

LATE one night about fifteen years ago, when Burt Britton was managing a saloon in Greenwich Village, he asked one of his customers to draw a self-portrait on a napkin. The customer was Norman Mailer. Britton now works in a Greenwich Village bookstore and he is still getting writers to draw pictures for him. A collection of over 700 of them—called *Self-Portrait*—has just been published.

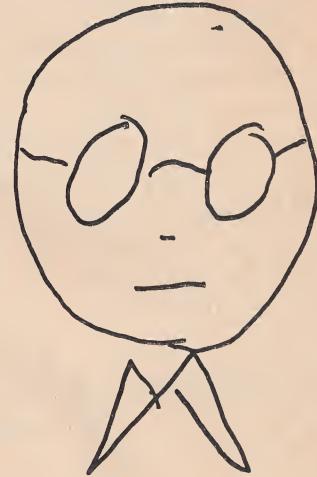
"I still don't know why I asked Mailer to draw himself," Britton said the other day as we talked in the crowded basement of the Strand Bookstore. "Why didn't I ask him to play tennis or to autograph a book? You've got me, but that started it all. Of course when you start asking Why? you can go anywhere. Why did Janet Flanner draw herself as a Christmas tree; or Susan Sontag, as a star? Nelson Algren drew a cat, what do you think that means? When Borges was here he said he'd like to draw a maze but he didn't know how. Beautiful man. I got him a chair to sit on to do his drawing. He was the first writer who came down here to draw who sat down to do it. He's blind, you know. When I leave this place that chair goes with me."

You get the impression that Britton has never talked to anyone who hasn't published a book. "I just kept the pictures for the fun of it, but Anaïs Nin said I should publish them. I said that the writers wouldn't like it. She said they would, so I asked the next ten writers I saw and they all went for it. Most of the drawings have been done right here, on top of packing cases, although when I knew I was going to publish I began writing to people and asking for self-portraits. Take Eudora Welty. There's not much chance in the world that Eudora Welty is going to wander into the Strand, so I wrote to her and she sent me a beauty. J. D. Salinger sent my request back with 'Refused' stamped on it. I respect his not wanting to do one, but I wish he had read my letter. I got Gwendolyn Brooks at a Hertz Rent-a-Car counter in the Providence, Rhode Island, airport, and she did a beauty. A beautiful woman. The only

writer I ever asked in person who refused me was Donald Barthelme, but then he came up with a drawing his daughter did of him, and I took it.

While we were talking a young poet, whose first book will be published next year, was sitting in Borges' chair hard at work on a self-portrait. Britton kept sneaking peeks at her progress from behind a pile of books. "She's slow," he mouthed in an elaborate stage whisper. "Most of them just take a few seconds. They might do them over and over, but each picture usually takes just a few seconds. John Gardner has the world's record. He worked on his for almost an hour." Gardner's is a complex jungle scene more or less in the style of the French primitive painter Rousseau. "The thing that surprises me is how many nude drawings I've got, especially of men. Bare-breasted women, you kind of expect that. But I've been getting a lot of penises in here. Who would have thought it? I guess they figure if they're going to expose themselves they might as well expose themselves."

The poet finished and gave Britton her picture as though she were a student turning in an examination paper. "A beauty, a real beauty," Britton



Truman Capote, from *Self-Portrait*

said, and she hurried away. "She'll be back," Britton said, again in a stage whisper, and before she got to the stairs she did turn around and come back. She wanted to tear up her drawing. "They all say that," he told her. "Even Tennessee Williams." "Tell her it's a beauty," he said to me. "It's a beauty," I said. "One of the best," Britton said. "Look, if you want to, come back tomorrow and try again, but I'll keep this one for now." She left. "She won't be back, I'll bet you on that, and it is one of the best, you know."

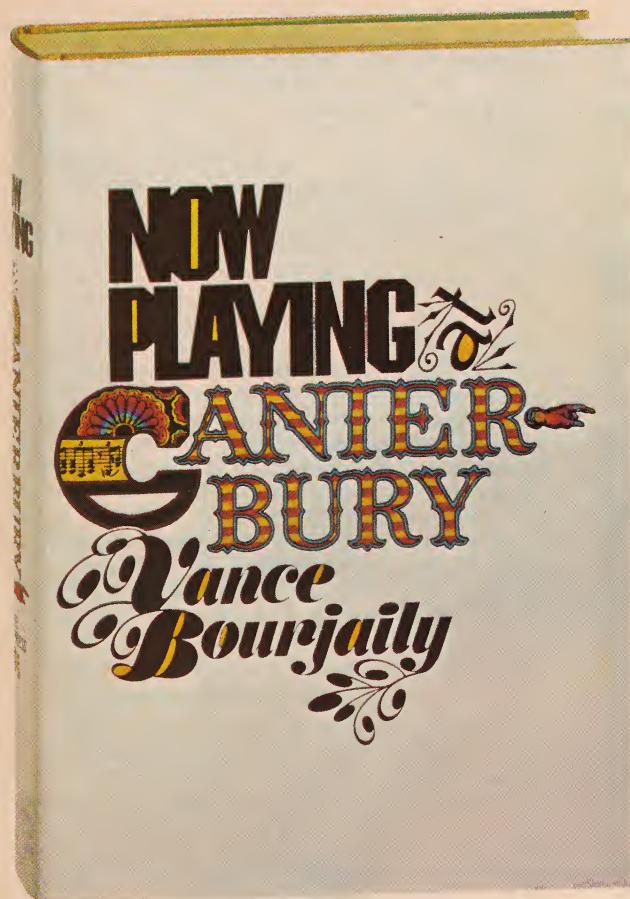
Before I left Britton took me on a quick tour of the store. "This really is my home," he said. "You could bring Dostoevsky in here, and I could deal with him."

(Continued on page 22)

"This is a great big jack-in-the-box of a book . . . ripe with the pure hoary virtues of storytelling. . . . It's too good not to be believed!"

—Chicago Daily News

FROM A REVIEW BY Kay Mussell IN THE Washington Star



To STATE UNIVERSITY in State City one summer comes a rich variety of musicians and theater people to mount a production of an original opera entitled \$4000, with libretto and score by two university faculty members. Of the twenty important characters, some are local faculty and students and some are professionals brought in by the university for the production. The structure of *Now Playing at Canterbury* is the "pilgrimage" of the characters from the hiring of the director to the aftermath of opening night.

But this is only the structure, for as the characters begin to know one another and become involved with each other . . . they tell each other tales—and what wonderful tales they are! Reminiscent of Chaucer in their bawdiness, humor and affectionate tolerance of the foibles of modern man, the tales are as diverse as the characters who tell them. . . . All reveal individual characters as the group slowly coheres, alliances are made and broken, controversies surface and die, love affairs begin and end. . . .

Like Chaucer, Bourjaily's affection for his characters is tangible. He recognizes their failures, petty triumphs and foibles, but lets them remain ultimately sympathetic. . . . Bourjaily's novel is bawdy, funny, intense and moving. It deserves to be read.

"A stunning accomplishment, a masterpiece . . . flawed only by the fact that it, like Chaucer's *Tales*, must end."

—Cleveland Plain Dealer

"*Now Playing at Canterbury* is the novel Vance Bourjaily's career has promised us. . . . It will be read and remembered." —The New York Times Book Review

[Publisher's list price: \$10] PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$8.95
ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

Other Book-of-the-Month Club Selections and Alternates

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT—IN SOME CASES **TWO CREDITS**—
WILL BE GIVEN WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY OF THESE BOOKS
[A shipping charge is added to all shipments.]

VOYAGE: A Novel of 1896

by *Sterling Hayden*

January Selection. This great sea adventure tells of the maiden voyage of the *Neptune's Car*, a steel square-rigger bound from Maine for San Francisco with a cargo of coal and a crew of brutal, violent men who threaten to mutiny. "A riveting 736-page windjammer yarn evoking Dana, Melville, Conrad, Jack London"—Clifton Fadiman.

(*Pub price: \$12.95*) Price to Members: **\$9.95**

THE FACE OF BATTLE

by *John Keegan*

December Selection. A "wise and sympathetic" book shedding fresh light on the emotions, humors, splendors and miseries of soldiers in battle. Reviewing particularly the experiences of those who fought in three major engagements centuries apart—Agincourt, Waterloo and the Somme—Mr. Keegan, who teaches at Sandhurst, England's Royal Military Academy, depicts the common elements facing all fighting men under attack. "Illuminated all through by the cool light of intelligence"—Gilbert Highet.

(*Pub price: \$10.95*) Price to Members: **\$8.95**

BLIND AMBITION: The White House Years

by *John Dean*

November Selection. The long-awaited inside account by John Dean—former White House counsel to Richard Nixon and star witness at the Ervin Committee hearings—of the Watergate affair. "John Dean's highly personalized story of Watergate and its attempted cover-up is downright dynamite. . . . The characterizations are devastating, the insider's gossip wicked and clever"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(*Pub price: \$11.95*) Price to Members: **\$9.95**

ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL, 1939-1941

The Partnership That Saved the West

by *Joseph P. Lash*

Based largely on materials previously unpublished, this study by the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Eleanor and Franklin* examines the unique relationship which developed between Roosevelt and Churchill during the crucial war years from 1939 to 1941 when England struggled for survival. Photographs. "A splendid work—incisive in its analysis, compelling in its narrative, sensitive in its judgments"—Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.

(*Pub price: \$12.95*) Price to Members: **\$10.95**

MARGARET MITCHELL'S GONE WITH THE WIND LETTERS, 1936-1949

Edited by *Richard Harwell*

In this remarkable collection of letters written to friends, critics and publishing and movie executives between 1936 and 1949, Margaret Mitchell tells what it was like to be the author of this century's biggest best seller. Photographs. "From book to movie to lawsuit to mountains of fan mail makes a whopping yarn full of book lore and Mitchell lore—all of it fresh, alive, engaging and not gone with the wind after all"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(*Pub price: \$12.95*) Price to Members: **\$10.95**

THE TOLKIEN COMPANION

by *J. E. A. Tyler*

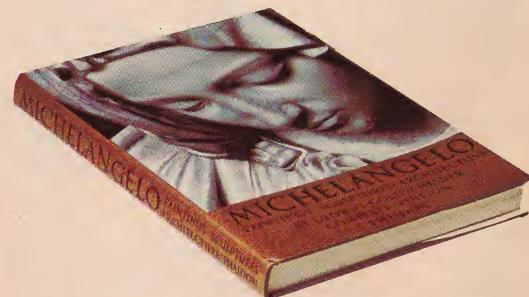
The perfect traveling companion for voyagers to the perilous and enchanted realms of Middle-earth. Contains almost every known fact, name, "foreign" word, date and etymological allusion given in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Adventures of Tom Bombadil* and *The Road Goes Ever On*—all arranged alphabetically for easy reference and for hours of fascinating browsing. Maps, charts, genealogies. Cross-referenced.

(*Pub price: \$12.95*) Price to Members: **\$9.95**

MICHELANGELO: Paintings • Sculptures •

Architecture by *Ludwig Goldscheider*

Fifth Edition (1975) of the only book to reproduce all of Michelangelo's work apart from his drawings. Contains 400 illustrations (10 in full color) plus a brief biography and a commentary, with updated



bibliographical notes, on each of the plates. Appendixes discuss the lost works of Michelangelo, works which have been attributed to him and wax and clay models of his sculptures. 266 pages, 9" x 12 1/4". Two Book-Dividend Credits given.

(*Pub price: \$19.95*) Price to Members: **\$17.95**

THE RIGHT AND THE POWER

The Prosecution of Watergate

by Leon Jaworski

In this fascinating memoir, Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski discusses aspects of the Watergate investigation never made public before—including his plea-bargaining sessions with John Ehrlichman and H. R. Haldeman, his struggles for the White House tapes, and the reasons for his much-criticized decision not to challenge the Nixon pardon in court. “The ‘final word’ on Watergate”—*Washington Star*.

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LOVERS AND TYRANTS

by Francine du Plessix Gray

A poignant, erotic novel about a woman’s journey to self-discovery. Francine du Plessix Gray, a frequent contributor to the *New Yorker* and other magazines, tells the story of an aristocratic woman whose search for the love that was denied her as a child cannot be satisfied either by an apparently happy marriage or by a series of affairs.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

MY SECOND TWENTY YEARS

An Unexpected Life by Richard P. Brickner

Brickner was a promising sophomore at Middlebury College when he flipped over in an MG and broke his neck. Suddenly at the age of 20 he was forced to begin life again, only this time as a cripple. *MY SECOND TWENTY YEARS* is the story of that new life—of learning to make his own way in the world, learning to love and, underlying both, learning to live in a wheelchair. “A beautiful, haunting document”—*Publishers Weekly*.

\$7.95

SLAPSTICK or LONESOME NO MORE!

by Kurt Vonnegut

Another wonderfully wacky tour-de-farce by the best-selling author of *Slaughterhouse Five* and *Breakfast of Champions*. The story of a seven-foot-tall, 100-year-old man who lives in the ruins of the lobby of New York’s Empire State Building, this novel, according to Vonnegut, “is the closest I will ever come to writing an autobiography.” “A zany, satirically sure novel by a writer who joyously knocks reality off the rails”—Mordecai Richler.

\$7.95

HARRY BROWNE’S COMPLETE GUIDE TO SWISS BANKS

The author of the best-selling *You Can Profit from a Monetary Crisis* tells how you can profit from a Swiss bank account. In this comprehensive investor’s handbook, financial expert Browne covers virtually all phases of Swiss banking: choosing a bank, opening and maintaining an account and managing your funds for profit, privacy and safety—whether you have \$100 or \$1 million to invest or deposit. 40-page appendix.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE THIRTEENTH TRIBE: The Khazar

Empire and Its Heritage

by Arthur Koestler

Are the majority of today’s Western Jews Semites? Or are they descendants of a “thirteenth tribe”? According to Arthur Koestler, author of *Darkness at Noon*, millions of Jews are the offspring of an ancient Turkish tribe, the Khazars, who were converts to Judaism and who settled mainly in Russia and Poland around the thirteenth century. “Excellent . . . as readable as it is thought-provoking”—*The New York Times Book Review*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

THE CLASSIC FAIRY TALES

Edited by Iona and Peter Opie

Chosen by *The New York Times* as one of 1974’s **Ten Notable Children’s Books**. Twenty-four of the world’s best-loved fairy stories, among them *Beauty*



and the Beast and *Hansel and Gretel*, presented as they first appeared in English and enhanced by the illustrations—many in full color—of George Cruikshank, Kate Greenaway, Arthur Rackham and others. (All ages)

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THE SEVENTH POWER by James Mills

In this latest novel by the author of *Report to the Commissioner*, two Princeton seniors and a dangerous young felon hold New York City at bay with a homemade A-bomb. The name of their game is nuclear blackmail. “One of the most exciting novels I have ever read . . . it is like being lowered by a frozen rope into the mind of tomorrow”—Richard Condon. “A documentary story which never cools to room temperature”—*Kirkus Reviews*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

THE ACTS OF KING ARTHUR AND HIS NOBLE KNIGHTS by John Steinbeck

Malory’s *Morte Darthur* as retold by John Steinbeck. For years until his death in 1968, the author of *The Grapes of Wrath* worked intermittently on translating the Arthurian legend into the “American language.” The seven tales he completed are published here for the first time, together with his correspondence about the project. Steinbeck based his retellings on the 15th-century Winchester manuscript of Malory.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE GLORY BOYS by Gerald Seymour

Another exciting thriller by the highly praised author of *Harry's Game*. David Sokarev, Israel's leading nuclear scientist, is scheduled to arrive in London on Monday. On Tuesday, he is scheduled to die. British Security has only seventy-two hours to identify the would-be assassins, track them down and put them out of action.

\$7.95

FIRE AND ICE: The Story of Charles Revson—the Man Who Built the Revlon Empire by Andrew Tobias

A "corrosive, witty and devastatingly frank portrait" of Charles Revson, womanizer, woman-hater, egomaniac, eccentric and ruthless entrepreneur, who climbed to the top of the American cosmetics industry. *New York* magazine writer Andrew Tobias traces Revson's ascent to corporate power and his years as Revlon's multimillionaire chief mogul.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE RAPE OF THE NILE: Tomb Robbers, Tourists and Archaeologists in Egypt

by Brian M. Fagan

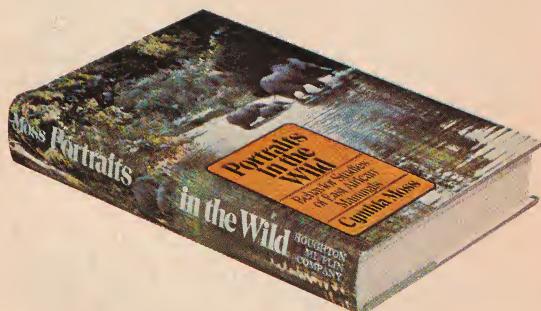
A lavishly illustrated archaeological whodunit telling in graphic detail of exploiters who have looted the treasures of ancient Egypt—and also of archaeologists who have worked to preserve them. The exploiters include obelisk-stealing Romans, museum curators, travelers, mummy traders and treasure hunters. "A handsome offering for archaeological buffs"—*Kirkus Reviews*.

(Pub price: \$14.95) Price to Members: \$11.95

PORTRAITS IN THE WILD: Behavior Studies of East African Mammals

by Cynthia Moss

A fascinating illustrated introduction to the complex societies of the African elephant, giraffe, zebra, black rhinoceros, baboon, lion, cheetah, leopard and six



species of antelope. Explains in graphic detail courtship and mating habits, feeding patterns and predator-prey relationships, birth processes and rearing habits, as well as the place of each species in the total ecosystem of East Africa. Illustrated with 36 pages of photographs, some in full color.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

THE BOOK OF HOPE

How Women Can Overcome Depression

by Helen A. De Rosis, M.D., and

Victoria Y. Pellegrino

A practical, self-help book for the 8 million men and women who suffer each year from chronic, low-grade depression. Includes a detailed examination of the causes and symptoms of this often-undiagnosed illness (which, incidentally, strikes more than twice as many women as men), and practical prescriptions for overcoming it.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

FINDING MY FATHER

by Rod McKuen

In this poignant autobiography, the best-selling poet tells of his lifelong search for the father he never knew. In describing his quest, McKuen also recalls his lonely childhood and youthful wanderings and his later successes as a singer, musician and writer. Illustrated with photographs, many from the author's personal collection. Contains a selection of song lyrics and poems (some written especially for this volume).

\$7.95

CATCH A FALLING SPY

by Len Deighton

Another action-packed spy thriller by the best-selling author of *The Ipcress File* and *Funeral in Berlin*. Someone is leaking classified information about America's military electronics program to the Soviet Union. Following a lead supplied by a Russian defector, Mickey Mann of the CIA and Frederick Antony of British Intelligence soon find themselves playing a dangerous game of hide-and-seek in which losing also means dying.

\$7.95

A SEA-CHANGE by Lois Gould

An escape novel unlike any you have read before. It is the story of an attractive young wife and mother who has been the victim of a brutal assault. Fleeing the city in terror, she seeks refuge on a remote island where a devastating hurricane almost overwhelms her daughters and herself. Finally, her marriage deteriorating, her sexual compass gone awry, she undergoes a "sea change" so profound and unexpected that no reader will forget the novel's denouement. By the author of *Such Good Friends*.

\$6.95

A CHARLES DICKENS CHRISTMAS

A Christmas Carol/The Chimes/The Cricket on the Hearth

A beautiful edition of Charles Dickens' most beloved "Christmas Books," which he wrote especially for the Yuletide seasons between 1843 and 1848. Illustrated with thirty-five original drawings in color wash by the noted artist and designer Warren Chappell, this volume includes tales of ghosts and goblins and a cricket that chirps up at a crucial moment.

(Pub price: \$14.95) Price to Members: \$11.95

The Book-of-the-Month Club Also Recommends

Reported upon here are newly published books that were enjoyed or considered important by our editorial staff. The Club will be happy to obtain for members, upon request, any books reviewed on this page.

NINA CASE was one of the few girls allowed to enter medical school in Chicago in 1903. In time she became Nina Price, M.D., the first woman doctor many rural Pennsylvanians had ever seen. By the end of her long life in 1974 she was revered by three generations and had been named Pennsylvania Woman of the Year. *Dr. Nina and the Panther* (\$8.95), a biography by Shirley P. Wheeler, one of her daughters, is a refreshing story of a life full of the old-time virtues. As a child Nina had lived with an intensely religious mother in numbing poverty in the mountains of Pennsylvania. Mother prayed and awaited the Second Coming while 9-year-old Nina gathered chestnuts by the sack and carried them to barter for staples with a grocer some ten miles away. Local Seventh-Day Adventists, quick to recognize Nina's gifts, made it possible for her to get an education and helped her through medical school. Later, convinced that she was being exploited and manipulated, the young physician broke with the sect and settled down as a horse-and-buggy doctor. Her life became a rich one, filled with her own children and with waifs in trouble, marked by kitchen-table appendectomies and such crises as the 1917-18 influenza epidemic. Eventually it was over the mountains and through the woods in a battered jalopy propelled by Dr. Nina as if it were the "Spirit of St. Louis." Mrs. Wheeler complicates her narrative now and then with touches of personal moralizing, but her book is an affectionate picture of a remarkable woman and a pleasant, old-fashioned read.—Nancy Sawyer

THE Alice of a handsome book called *Alice's World* (\$19.95) is not Lewis Carroll's Alice but the late Miss Alice Austen of Staten Island, whose wet-plate photographs taken long ago, when Staten Island was among Manhattan's genteel suburbs, have only recently come to public notice. Ann Novotny has researched Miss Austen's life with what seems to be exemplary patience and come up with a narrative both touching and fascinating. The rambling old Austen homestead, "Clear Comfort," which faced the Narrows; the comfortable, semi-rural life led by such Staten Island gentry as the Austens in the 1870s, 1880s and 1890s; Alice's introduction to photography when she was still a girl

and her energetic pursuit of the craft at a time when well-to-do unmarried females were supposed to pour tea or at most to play a little tennis; the octogenarian tragedy which overtook her and darkened



Alice Austen at "Clear Comfort," 1893. A self-portrait.

her days at the end—all these matters are well covered in Miss Novotny's text and superbly illustrated with reproductions of more than 170 Austen photographs. This is authentic American social history of a very rare and special kind.—G. C. Hedge

WE HATE poor people like the Russians. We love rich people like the Americans. They'll give us things," an Egyptian agronomist moonlighting as a chauffeur told Hans Koning, author of *A New Yorker in Egypt* (\$10.95). Mr. Koning went to Egypt in the fall of 1975, eager to get away from American editorials and newspaper headlines, hoping to relax and "go backward in time." His book shows that he didn't entirely succeed, but it is a shrewd and readable account of what he found. The extent to which the average Egyptian feels he can ignore patriotism and the Arab-Israeli conflict and concentrate on business-as-usual may surprise American readers. Whether describing the snobishness of faded aristocrats at the Gezira Sporting Club or the only live call to prayer to be heard (amplified calls generally blast from loudspeakers), Mr. Koning has an eye for ironic detail. His picture of modern Egypt as a land where everybody expects somebody else to come along and provide an easy, glamorous existence is both thought-provoking and disturbing.—Elizabeth Easton

SEXUAL LOVING: The Experience of Love

by Joseph and Lois Bird

An understanding, utterly frank guide to improving sexual relationships—written by a married couple expressly for married couples. Sexual anatomy, sexual fantasies, acts and positions, orgasm, oral and anal sex, birth control and sexual problems are discussed in detail. “Surely one of the most beautifully written books in its field to date”—*Publishers Weekly*.

\$7.95

KINFLICKS by Lisa Alther

A funny, affecting, acute novel of an American mother and daughter in the last third of the twentieth century. “Certain to be one of the most talked-about books of the year”—*Publishers Weekly*. “[Contains] the best 100-or-so pages on adolescent mores and attitudes, sex and sensibilities since Salinger took us on Holden Caulfield’s journey”—*Saturday Review*. “A strong, salty, original talent”—Doris Lessing.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

THE EASTER PARADE

by Richard Yates

This compelling novel focuses on Emily Grimes, a woman who finds herself at middle age having to learn to cope with an unsuccessful marriage, an unsatisfying career and a life whose meaning has always eluded her. “Few men since Flaubert have offered such profound sympathy to women whose lives are hell”—Kurt Vonnegut.

\$7.95

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE THIRD

REICH by William L. Shirer

Over the years, William Shirer’s landmark study of Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany has proved to be the Club’s most popular Selection. This brilliant 1200-page account traces the history of the Third Reich from Hitler’s early days in Vienna through his years as Führer to his death in Berlin in 1945. “Reads like a murder mystery (which, in a sense, it indeed is)” —John Gunther. By the author of *20th Century Journey*. two Book-Dividend Credits given.

(Pub price: \$17.50) Price to Members: \$13.95

20TH CENTURY JOURNEY: A Memoir of a Life and the Times The Start: 1904-1930

by William L. Shirer

The first volume of memoirs by the author of *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* is as much history as autobiography. The Iowan journalist recounts his “journey” from Main Street, U.S.A., to the Left Bank of Paris and his early years as a foreign correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune*. 20TH CENTURY JOURNEY spans only twenty-six years, but they were incredibly rich years for the young Shirer. Between 1925 and 1930, when the forces of World War II were taking shape, he covered each of the major European capitals and met the leading figures in politics, literature and theater. Photographs.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

WYETH AT KUERNERS

by Betsy James Wyeth

A richly illustrated volume of Andrew Wyeth’s work —filled with superb reproductions of hundreds of drawings, watercolors and drybrush and tempera paintings never published before—that vividly demonstrates how a great artist transforms rough studies into finished works of art. 370 reproductions, 160 in magnificent full color; 336 pages. Actual size: 13" x 10". two Book-Dividend Credits given.

(Pub price: \$60.00) Price to Members: \$50.00

THE KOBRA MANIFESTO by Adam Hall

Filled with fast-paced action and heart-pounding suspense, this novel by the author of *The Quiller Memorandum* and *The Tango Briefing* pits Quiller, British intelligence’s top agent, against a group of political terrorists who have devised a seemingly fool-proof plan to sabotage the world’s critical balance of power. “Hall is the unchallenged king of the spy story”—*Buffalo News*.

\$7.95

NOT SO WILD A DREAM

A Personal Story of Youth and War and the American Faith

by Eric Sevareid • With a new introduction by the author

“Among the finest of autobiographies of American correspondents”—*Atlantic Monthly*. A newly reissued edition of Eric Sevareid’s best-selling memoir, first published in 1946, about life in America before and during World War II. “One of the significant American documents of our time”—Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. “A permanent classic of American journalism”—Theodore H. White.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$10.95

THE MEMOIRS OF A SURVIVOR

by Doris Lessing

A new novel—a “brilliant fable”—by the author of *The Golden Notebook*. In the not-too-distant future, in an unnamed city ominously resembling New York, a woman and a young girl who has been left with her struggle to survive in a disintegrating society. “Extraordinary and compelling. . . . Doris Lessing has written a visionary’s history of the future”—*Time*. “Intriguing and haunting”—*Publishers Weekly*.

\$6.95

THE ADVENTURE OF BIRDS

by Charlton Ogburn

The author of *The Winter Beach* details the facts of ornithology: the design of a feather, the rituals of courtship and mating, the construction of nests, the care of the young, the seasonal migrations. But he explains these in the context of a larger story—the fascination, even envy, with which man has always viewed the free flight of birds. “Clearly a labor of love”—*Audubon*. Illustrated with 16 full-page drawings by Matthew Kalmenoff.

(Pub price: \$10.95) Price to Members: \$8.95



Alternate

A thoughtful and honest book
about a problem all of us face at one
time or another

BitterSweet

SURVIVING AND GROWING FROM LONELINESS

by TERRI SCHULTZ

"Loneliness follows me everywhere. I want love, and am not willing to settle for security. I need affection and friends, and I also need freedom and my dreams. Again and again, I find myself alone, stripped of my illusions, with no one to hold me in the night."

THESE are the words of Terri Schultz, a talented young journalist who, at a particularly troubled time in her life, confronted (and ultimately conquered) her own loneliness. Now she has written a moving and useful book that may help others do the same.

In *Bittersweet*, she deals with "average middle-class loneliness," the feelings of boredom, emptiness and alienation that affect so many people today. With insight and clarity, Terri Schultz talks about loneliness in childhood and in marriage; about loneliness at parties, with friends, during sex; about "emotional anesthesia" and living alone.

Throughout her reflections, she interweaves personal experiences with information gained from interviews with friends, acquaintances and therapists. She tells of her participation in "half a dozen therapies and movements" (psychotherapy, est, TM, TA, yoga, Arica) and how she was "helped a little by each."

This searching exploration of loneliness will give readers a good deal of insight into their own.

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

THE FAMILY ARSENAL by Paul Theroux

"Respectfully but firmly stands Graham Greene's *The Quiet American* on its head"—Wilfrid Sheed. A taut thriller about an American ex-diplomat whose involvement with a London-based terrorist group eventually leads him into a frightening world of violence and murder. By the author of *The Great Railway Bazaar*. "Tightly plotted, terribly evocative"—*Daily Telegraph* (London).

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

ROSS MACDONALD SELECTS GREAT STORIES OF SUSPENSE

A connoisseur's collection of mystery, murder and mayhem, featuring such master storytellers as Graham Greene, Dick Francis, Dashiell Hammett, Agatha Christie, Roald Dahl, James M. Cain, John Collier and Margaret Millar. Includes eleven short stories, four complete novels and Robert Louis Stevenson's famous novella, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

MOSHE DAYAN: Story of My Life

by Moshe Dayan

Israel's former defense minister reveals the story behind his country's stormiest, most dramatic days. Among the highlights of Dayan's autobiography are his review of the controversial Yom Kippur War and of the political crisis which followed, and candid assessments of such contemporaries as Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir, Henry Kissinger and King Hussein of Jordan.

(Pub price: \$15.00) Price to Members: \$10.95

THE RUSSIANS by Hedrick Smith

An eye-opening look at the Russian people and their society by Hedrick Smith, who spent three and a half years in Moscow as a correspondent for *The New York Times*. "A book worthy of this titanic subject.... At the end one understands a little why this country that can make one laugh till the tears come at its atrocious imitations of a modern nation also commands our consistent if puzzled respect, fear and hope"—Wilfrid Sheed.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

AN IRREVERENT AND THOROUGHLY INCOMPLETE SOCIAL HISTORY OF ALMOST EVERYTHING

by Frank Muir

As entertaining as it is informative, this unorthodox social history contains more than 1000 remarks from the acid-dipped pens of such as Pope, Twain, Shaw, Voltaire, Swift and Mencken on the "deplorable" state of music, education, literature, theater, food and drink down through the ages. 372 pages. "[Will] elevate the reader quite often to unhealthy altitudes of high amusement"—*Chicago Tribune*.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE ADVENTURES OF JONATHAN CORNCOB

Loyal American Refugee by *Himself*

Probably the finest picaresque novel to deal with 18th-century America, JONATHAN CORNCOB was originally published in London in 1787 and is now reprinted for the first time. The prodigal hero rides to Boston on a moose, pollinates the demure Desire Slawbunk, escapes to sea, raids the fairest flowers of New York society and recovers from seven social diseases simultaneously. Illustrated by Mark Livingston, New England's answer to Hogarth.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

A MAN CALLED INTREPID: The Secret War

by *William Stevenson*

While Britain waged ruthless open war against the Nazis, another, very hush-hush war was being carried on. Here, revealed for the first time, are details of that other war, whose chief of operations was a Canadian, William Stephenson, code name Intrepid, and whose base was a New York City office. Stephenson was Churchill's secret emissary to FDR and was to become one of the models for Ian Fleming's famous agent, M. "Filled with more true incredible tales of international intrigue than any ten spy novels I know of"—Mordecai Richler.

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

THE HOT-BLOODED DINOSAURS

A Revolution in Paleontology

by *Adrian J. Desmond*

A fascinating account by a British paleontologist about the search for the true identity of the largest animal ever to have walked the earth. Citing the latest scientific studies, the author proposes that the dinosaur was vastly more sophisticated "in physiology and locomotion" than the cumbersome, dim-witted giant of popular myth. 60 black-and-white illustrations. "Utterly delightful. . . . It really reads like a detective story"—Ashley Montagu.

(Pub price: \$12.95) Price to Members: \$9.95

THE JOY OF MONEY: The Guide to Women's Financial Freedom

by *Paula Nelson*

What every woman needs to know—and usually doesn't—about money. The author covers such topics as how to get out of debt, begin your own business, pick professional help, start a portfolio, acquire a nest egg. Virtually every form of investment is considered: savings accounts, insurance, real estate, stocks, bonds, commodities and "collectibles" such as silver and antiques.

(Publisher's list price: \$7.95)

Price to Members: \$6.95

EATERS OF THE DEAD by *Michael Crichton*

In this exciting novel, the author of *The Great Train Robbery* skillfully blends fact and fiction to re-create the fierce and exciting world of the Norsemen. The story is a first-person account by Ibn Fadlan, a 10th-century Arab diplomat, of an expedition he made to the desolate lands of the Northmen and of his encounter there with the dreaded marauders called "the Eaters of the Dead."

\$6.95

THE EDEN EXPRESS: A Personal Account of Schizophrenia by *Mark Vonnegut*

In 1970, a year after graduating from Swarthmore, author Kurt Vonnegut's son Mark went to British Columbia to lead a simple, communal life. Less than a year later, he found himself in Hollywood Psychiatric Hospital in Vancouver, diagnosed as schizophrenic. This book is an outspoken, often moving account of that experience: from his response to counter-culture life through his illness and its treatment. "A disarmingly open, engrossing, oddly graceful chronicle"—*Kirkus Reviews*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

MARGOT FONTEYN: Autobiography

by *Margot Fonteyn*

Illustrated with eighty pages of photographs, MARGOT FONTEYN is both an enchanting memoir by the world's prima ballerina and a deeply affecting love story. Fonteyn relives her long career and recalls fondly her teachers, choreographers and partners, including, of course, Rudolf Nureyev. She also tells the story of her romance and marriage to the Panamanian diplomat Roberto Arias, who was later crippled by an assassin's bullet. "Cool, witty, abundantly illustrated"—*Kirkus Reviews*.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

THE LANGUAGE OF FEELINGS

The Time-and-Money Shorthand

of Psychotherapy by *David Viscott, M.D.*

The author of *The Making of a Psychiatrist*, a Club Selection in 1973, offers practical advice on how to understand and manage such potentially damaging emotions as hurt, anxiety, anger, guilt and depression. Above all, Dr. Viscott emphasizes that it is vitally important to "listen" to one's feelings. For, he maintains, "without an awareness of what our feelings mean, there is no *real* awareness of life."

\$6.95

LYNDON JOHNSON AND THE AMERICAN DREAM by *Doris Kearns*

"An unprecedeted portrait" of one of the most complex and contradictory of American presidents. Based on hours of intimate conversation with LBJ during the five years before his death, this psycho-biography, written by a Harvard professor who was once a White House Fellow, traces Johnson's life from his Texas childhood through his years as congressman and president.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

"This superb novel answers the question that everyone has asked: What would have happened to Custer had he lived? Read it."

—Jessamyn West

ON JUNE 25, 1876, as history has duly recorded, General George Armstrong Custer and several hundred cavalrymen under his command were massacred by the Sioux at the Little Bighorn. But what if Custer had survived? And what if, as Douglas Jones proposes in this ingenious novel, Custer had been brought to trial by the army for dereliction of duty?

The trial begins. The courtroom is packed with spectators and press. Day after day, they watch as the lawyer for the defense, Allan Jacobson, and the prosecuting attorney, Major Asa Gardiner, skillfully build their cases for

and against Custer. Day after day, they listen, horrified yet fascinated, as eyewitnesses describe the events of that bloody day on the Little Bighorn. But now all the evidence is in and Custer's fate must be decided.

Will the court find the "Golden Cavalier" innocent, believing him the victim of political and military enemies who will stop at nothing to see him disgraced? Or will they find him guilty, believing him vain, impetuous, a glory-seeker who sacrificed his men to further his ambitions? The hushed courtroom waits, as will the reader of this engrossing novel, for the verdict.

The Court-Martial of George Armstrong Custer

Douglas C. Jones

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN



CUTTER AND BONE by Newton Thornburg

A chilling novel about two burnt-out cases in the post-Vietnam wasteland of Southern California . . . and the obsession which propels them into the ruthless world of big money. "An unexpected, dazzling gem . . . melding a whodunit with portraits of unstuck individuals in contemporary society"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

SIGNAL ZERO by George Kirkham

The true story of a criminology professor who became a street cop. "A shocker . . . absorbing and thought provoking"—*Publishers Weekly*. George Kirkham used to teach his students at Florida State University that the police force attracted "insecure, hostile, authoritarian" personalities. Then he joined the men in blue and found out what it really means to "work behind a badge and a uniform" in urban America.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

SMALL IS BEAUTIFUL

Economics as if People Mattered

by E. F. Schumacher

In this now-classic work, first published in 1973, E. F. Schumacher offers smaller-scale yet feasible solutions to problems—from the energy shortage to urban decay—that have been created by the theory that bigger is better. "A book of more heart and hope and downright common sense about the future than all the economic and pseudoscientific forecasts around"—*Daily Mail* (London).

(Pub price: \$11.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

ORDINARY PEOPLE

by Judith Guest

"Read this fine first novel for its plotting, its sure sense of character and its wit, and rejoice"—*The Washington Post Book World*. **ORDINARY PEOPLE** tells the touching story of a 17-year-old boy who has tried to kill himself, and of how his well-meaning family complicates his road to recovery. "This book is realistic, constructive, affirmative. There is pain in it, and sometimes laughter"—*Wall Street Journal*.

\$7.95

THE SURVIVOR: An Anatomy of Life in the Death Camps by Terrence Des Pres

Why were some men and women able to live through the horrors of Nazi and Soviet death camps in which millions of others perished? From interviews with survivors and from the writings of such eyewitnesses and students of human behavior as Bruno Bettelheim, Alexander Solzhenitsyn and Elie Wiesel, the author draws a compelling portrait of these survivors and the ways in which they endured the unendurable. "Extraordinary. . . . I thank him for writing it"—Alfred Kazin, *N.Y. Times Book Review*.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

MEN, MONEY & MAGIC: The Story of Dorothy Schiff by Jeffrey Potter

A full, frank biography of newspaper publisher Dorothy Schiff, including her own account of her intimate relationship with FDR. Mrs. Schiff, owner and publisher of the *New York Post*, talks freely about Roosevelt, John F. and Robert Kennedy, Nixon, Kissinger, Rockefeller and other powerful men and women she has known intimately.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE FINAL DAYS

by Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein

A "remarkable work. . . . A compelling tale: the record of the final months and weeks and days of President Nixon"—Gilbert Highet. The two reporters for *The Washington Post* who coauthored *All the President's Men* disclose the full story behind the events that led to the resignation of America's thirty-seventh president. Based on hundreds of interviews, the book offers candid glimpses of Nixon, Kissinger, Haig and others.

(Pub price: \$11.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

by Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward

The basis for the movie of the same name, **ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN** is the compelling, behind-the-scenes account of the Watergate scandal by the two young *Washington Post* reporters who broke the story. "A muckraking classic"—John Barkham. "Remarkable"—*N.Y. Times Book Review*. "A devastating political detective story"—San Francisco *Chronicle*. "An admirable book in every way"—*Atlantic Monthly*.

(Pub price: \$10.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF LIFE

by Burton L. White

As Director of Harvard's Pre-School Project, Dr. White has spent about twenty years studying the development of the infant and toddler, and here reveals his techniques for rearing healthy, intelligent children during the critical first three years. This comprehensive guide outlines the child's emotional, physical and intellectual development, and, in addition, gives advice on such issues as the spacing of children, day-care centers and the best toys to buy. Illustrations by Kitty Riley Clark.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

CAGNEY BY CAGNEY by James Cagney

One of the great screen actors of our time talks out, for the first time, about his life—from growing up poor in turn-of-the-century New York to his colorful thirty-year career in Hollywood. Photographs. "The incomparable Jimmy Cagney puts as much verve and entertainment into this long-awaited autobiography as he has put into his remarkable screen performances"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95



Alternate

ON WATCH: A Memoir

by Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., *Admiral USN (Ret.)*

The controversial and alarming reflections of one of Nixon's former Joint Chiefs of Staff on the strategic position of the U.S. in the world today and the "perilous" course which he believes Henry Kissinger has set for America. "Like it or not, one of the major documents of the season"—*Kirkus Reviews*. "A hard-hitting, candid memoir. . . . Whether or not the reader agrees with Zumwalt . . . he must admire the intelligence, dedication and honesty of the man"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

CENTENNIAL by James A. Michener

Following in the tradition of *Hawaii* and *The Source*, this novel is a "finely documented, endlessly fascinating" chronicle of the great American West. Set in Centennial, Colorado, it traces the history of the Rocky Mountain region and this once-flourishing railroad town from its earliest times to the present. "Another masterly performance by Mr. Michener"—John K. Hutchens.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THE CLASS OF '65?

by Michael Medved and David Wallechinsky

In 1965 *Time* magazine focused on the senior class of a suburban Los Angeles high school for its cover story on "Today's Teenagers." Ten years later, thirty members of that class describe their lives then and now and discuss what it was like to come of age during the '60s and '70s. Photographs. "Illuminating . . . compelling reading"—Ashley Montagu.

(Pub price: \$10.00) Price to Members: \$8.95

DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT?

Cartoons by Edward Koren

Preface by Calvin Trillin

A collection of the best of Ed Koren's cartoons. Here in more than 100 pages are those shaggy people and strange beasts that have become as familiar to *New Yorker* readers as James Thurber's dogs once were. "Out of the unkempt hair styles and ragamuffin dress of the 1960s, Mr. Koren has distilled a marvelously ironic comedy of manners"—Hilton Kramer, *The New York Times Book Review*.

\$7.95

SPORTS IN AMERICA

by James A. Michener

A searching examination of the use and misuse of sports in America by the best-selling author of *Hawaii* and *Centennial*. While Michener's tone is lively and anecdotal, his book raises tough questions about virtually the entire spectrum of sports—from the Pee-wee Leagues to the black ghettos, from college campuses to televised pro games. "Hard-hitting and provocative. . . . It is difficult to see how a book on sports could be more comprehensive"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(Pub price: \$12.50) Price to Members: \$9.95

"A remarkable achievement. . . . Once you have begun this book, you will not be able to put it down."—Lucy Dawidowicz

SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST LIVING IN AMERICA New Lives

Dorothy Rabinowitz

HAILED by Irving Howe as "a tender and truthful book" and by Alfred Kazin as "a remarkable piece of creative reporting," *New Lives* tells the poignant stories of more than 100 Jews who escaped or survived the Nazi concentration camps to forge new lives in America.

Using as a dramatic backdrop the 1972 deportation hearings of Hermine Braunsteiner Ryan (the Queens housewife and former Vice-Kommandant of Maidanek concentration camp), the author introduces Stella, Jacob, Reva, Ruth, Elizabeth, Emil and many others as they recall the unspeakable horrors of the Nazi rule, ponder the painful question of why they among millions survived, and describe the often upsetting problems of acclimating themselves to life in America.

Written with rare tact and compassion, *New Lives* is a moving documentary that will involve every reader in its human tragedy and triumph.

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

"Original and vastly entertaining....Will surely be regarded as one of the most ambitious and seductive novels of the decade."—*Times* (London)

FALSTAFF

A Novel by **Robert Nye**

REQUIESCAT in pace? Not Sir John Falstaff, erring knight of Merrie England, beloved Shakespearean figure. At the venerable age of 81 in the year of Our Lord 1459, Falstaff decides to give the Bard measure for measure by writing his own unexpurgated memoirs. And what bawdy, boisterous memories Prince Hal's fat friend has of the ramparts he has scaled and the maidenheads he has breached, of the "art of royal arse-licking" and of what made the wives of Windsor merry.

"A roaring romp of a novel....You'd have to be tired of life not to like it."—*Publishers Weekly*

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95] **PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95**
ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

THE BODY IS THE HERO

by Ronald J. Glasser, M.D.

The fascinating story of how the human body defends itself against disease. In lively, lucid detail, Dr. Glasser describes the workings of man's "immune system" and the problems that occur when this system malfunctions—also the lifesaving advances which have been made in immunological science during the past 100 years. "Dr. Glasser's work rekindles a tradition running from *Arrowsmith* and De Kruif's *Microbe Hunters* to the NBA-winning *Lives of a Cell*. . . . It totally absorbs the reader"—*Publishers Weekly*.

(Pub price: \$8.95) Price to Members: \$7.95

536 PUZZLES & CURIOUS PROBLEMS

by Henry Ernest Dudeney

A gold mine of brain teasers by the English journalist and self-taught mathematician known as "the puzzle king." Contains money puzzles, age puzzles, clock puzzles, geometry puzzles, paper-folding puzzles, game puzzles, domino puzzles, match puzzles, etc., etc.—with, at the back of the book, explanations and answers. 428 pages; 421 diagrams and drawings.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$8.95

THE DAMNABLE QUESTION

A Study in Anglo-Irish Relations

by George Dangerfield

A masterful study by a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian. Beginning with the Act of Union in 1800 and carrying his story down to the partition of Ireland in 1922, Dangerfield looks at the many elements that have gone into the making of the present troubles in Ireland. "The story, brilliantly told, of Irish rancor and English disdain"—*The New York Times Book Review*. "An extraordinarily three-dimensional and balanced study"—*Washington Star*.

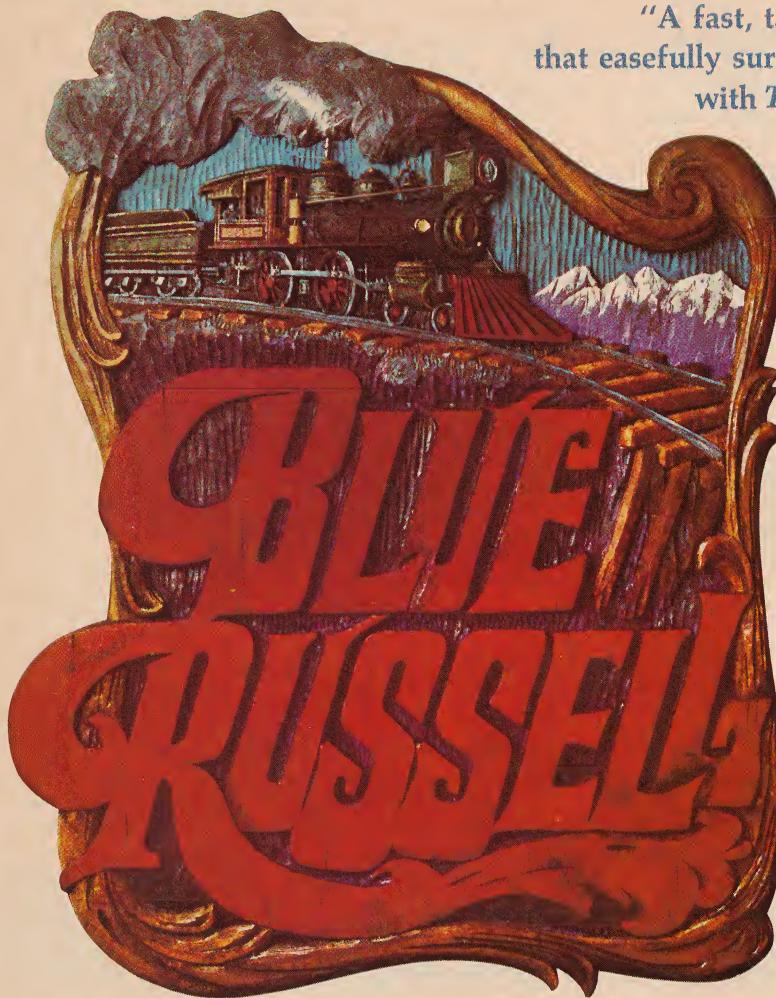
(Pub price: \$14.95) Price to Members: \$11.95

THE STORY OF PHILOSOPHY

by Will Durant

Long a best seller, this is probably the most satisfying book on philosophy available for the layman. It contains not only the essence of the wisdom of the great philosophers but a great deal of information about the philosophers themselves. Among those discussed are Plato, Aristotle, Nietzsche, Bergson, Bertrand Russell, Santayana, William James, John Dewey.

(Pub price: \$9.95) Price to Members: \$7.95



"A fast, tangy story
that easefully survives comparison
with *The Sting* and *True Grit*"
—Kirkus Reviews

by Will
Bryant
author of
ESCAPE FROM SONORA

IT is an October night in 1889. In a blacksmith's shop on the St. Louis waterfront, a quarrel between two men suddenly erupts in violence....

Blue Russell thinks he's killed his uncle—he didn't mean to but he knows the police will never believe that. On the lam, he falls in with Packard Disbrow, a master safecracker now retired because of an unfortunate accident with some nitro. Though unable to practice his craft, Packy sees a chance to strike it rich again by teaching Blue how to be the "class thief" he, Packy, once was.

Blue's first lesson, on the county treasury safe in Cape Girardeau, ends abruptly when a

rival band of thieves appears on the scene. But there are other towns and other safes—and Blue learns fast. Finally, after a series of spectacular hauls, the two go out West to join up with Blue's train-robber brother. Together they plot a daring caper—the heist of more than a quarter of a million dollars from the Shotgun Run express.

Will their ingenious scheme work? Will Blue be able to crack the train's invincible, triple-chambered, triple-locked safe? Will the sheriff's men arrive before the gang can make good its escape? Readers of *Blue Russell* will be thoroughly entertained as they wait with bated breath for the answers.

[Publisher's list price: \$8.95]

PRICE TO MEMBERS: \$7.95

ONE BOOK-DIVIDEND CREDIT GIVEN

WILLARD AND HIS BOWLING TROPHIES: A Perverse Mystery

by Richard Brautigan

A far-out, outrageous whodunit by the author of *The Hawkline Monster* and *Trout Fishing in America*. Set in a San Francisco apartment house, it involves the couple upstairs who act out bizarre sexual fantasies; the couple downstairs who live with Willard, a 3-foot papier-mâché bird, and his stolen bowling trophies; and the vengeful brothers who won the trophies. "Brautigan will surprise you by being totally original"—*National Observer*.

\$5.95

THE DEEP by Peter Benchley

Filled with chilling suspense that will keep the reader gripped from first page to last, this novel by the author of *Jaws* tells the story of a young honeymoon couple in Bermuda whose accidental discovery of a sunken treasure leads them into a terrifying maze of mystery and murder. "Knocks *Jaws* into a cocked hat for narrative power . . . and sheer excitement"—*The Bookseller* (London).

(Pub price: \$7.95) Price to Members: \$6.95

THE FAREWELL PARTY by Milan Kundera

A subtle satire on human relationships by one of Czechoslovakia's foremost fiction writers. In the course of five days at a posh fertility spa (where the presiding doctor cures his barren patients with injections of his own sperm), seven lives fatefully entwine in a mad mix of sexual ploys and passions. A "tantalizing and involving" novel by the author of *Life Is Elsewhere* and *Laughable Loves*. Translated by Peter Kussi.

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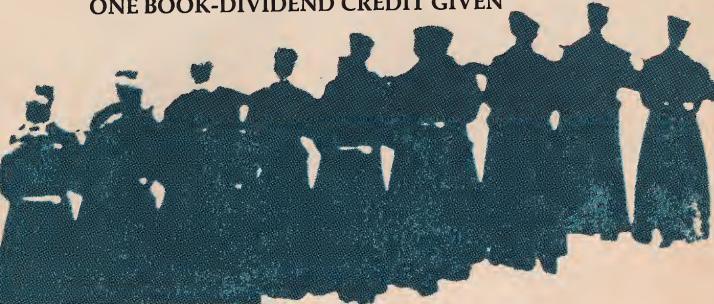
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EYE ON BOOKS (Continued from page 6)

I WANTED to show the difference between the so-called Literary Life and the work literary people do. In our Literary Lives we are often a bunch of asses, and we make grand statements, such as hope is false, death is real. But when we sit down at the typewriter all that guff is gone. When I write I'm no longer embarrassed or terrified. I have no sense of hope or vanity. I'm on my own and I love it."

The speaker is Lore Segal, and she is talking about her new novel, *Lucinella*, which is a comic valentine to the New York literary scene. It is a scene she knows well as a novelist (*Other People's Houses*), teacher (Bennington and Sarah Lawrence), children's book writer (*Tell Me a Mitzi*) and a long-time resident of the Upper West Side.

Lucinella is a young, very minor poet who knows all the right people and gets invited to all the right parties. She is published in the right magazines and goes to the Yaddo writers' colony at regular intervals. Lore Segal has been going to Yaddo on and off for nearly twenty years and says that *Lucinella* is, in part, an answer to *Real People*, a novel about Yaddo that Alison Lurie published several years ago.

Lucinella's friends—who stroll through the novel she narrates—include a famous poet, a distinguished British critic who never seems to go home to Britain, an editor who believes he has the power to make and break reputations, a leading younger poet, a black poet and a lady hanger-on whom no one can stand but who is at all the parties.

"Of course they're all based on real people," Lore Segal says. "I don't know how other people work, but I can't make characters out of nothing. I take someone, start writing about him, and then things get out of hand. The original character gets lost somewhere. You know the old math puzzle: take a number, add something to it, multiply it by something, subtract, divide by something else and so on. That's what I do when I write fiction, although I often forget what the original number was."

What about Zeus, who pops up at one point in the book to become Lucinella's lover. "That's a joke, but if you're going to have a love affair why not have it with a Greek god? I wanted to make Zeus a practical figure, and I asked myself what he would do. Well, I decided, he'd come to America because that's where everyone comes. He'd then have to become a college professor and fall in love with a poet. There are happy love affairs, you know."

Although *Lucinella* is known as a poet, she makes her living writing a soap opera. "Soap opera," says Segal, "is the wishful part of life and poetry is the reality. The novel is really about wishful thinking

(Continued on page 24)

CAT by B. Kliban

A best-selling collection of some 150 cartoons of cats. "Rate it four long, loud purrs"—*N. Y. Times Book Review*. "Neither cute nor mysterious but instead simply and irreverently, even raucously, very funny"—*Village Voice*. "Cat lovers are turned on to this wild and weird [book] full of fat, fuzzy fellows doing offbeat cat (with overtones of human) things"—*Chicago Tribune*.

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and wanting—what you want is what makes you get up in the morning even if you know it's phony. For instance, I want to write a novel that will revolutionize the world. Do you think *Lucinella* will revolutionize the world? Of course you don't. But I can still write it and that makes me happy.

"One of the great lies is the Tolstoy line 'All happy families are alike.' Wrong. The happy ones are unique. It's the unhappy ones that are all alike. No one examines happy lives."

MONTY PYTHON may well be on its way to becoming an endangered species. The British comedy group that streaked to success in the United States a few seasons ago when its old BBC shows were recycled on the Public Broadcasting System has now disbanded as far as TV work is concerned. Its five members have plans, however, to follow up their film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* with a new movie. "Nothing's been written yet," says Eric Idle, one of the five, "but one title we're considering is *Jesus Christ: Lust for Glory*." For those who have seen "Monty Python," Idle is the thin, long-haired deadpan one who often wears a dress.

He was in New York to appear as guest host on the live NBC show "Saturday Night." It was his first solo appearance in America, although he is quite used to working without his fellow Pythons. "We always wrote alone, even when we were working as a group," he says. He has published a novel, *Hello Sailor*, in England. It is a comedy about a homosexual member of Parliament, and Idle says no one would publish it until Britain's bachelor prime minister left office. He also has his own TV show called "Rutland Weekend Television," a half-hour weekly program, somewhat in the Python manner, that pretends to be the sole product of a low-budget network operating out of Rutland, a Midlands county that was wiped off the map by official edict in 1974 because it was too small.

Idle has written a new book, suggested by the TV show, called *The Rutland Dirty Weekend Book*. It's a magazine-like paperback that parodies everything from *Rolling Stone* to English Sunday newspaper supplements ("Have You Ever Thought About Visiting Wales? No. Well, who can blame you. So why not visit ENGLAND this year? Some very good reasons for visiting England: 1) No Welsh, 2) No confusing place names such as Llanfairfechan-gogogoch, 3) No massed male voice choirs.") to something called *The Vatican Sex Manual: How to Avoid Sex Before, During and After Marriage*.

"It's very good reading on trains," Idle said as we talked in his dressing room during a Wednesday afternoon rehearsal break. "It is perfectly acceptable to giggle on British trains. Can you get away with that over here?"

Idle is a product of Cambridge. All the Pythons with the exception of the one American member are from either Cambridge or Oxford. I mentioned that American comedians have usually come out of the Lower East Side of Manhattan and make jokes about how they got out, while many English comedians seem to suggest that they are really doctors or lawyers or Latin scholars who are only funny as a sideline. "I think that's just a part of British understatement. You can never claim that you are really serious about something like comedy. You are supposed to pretend that you never do what you really do. In America, most of the new, college-educated humorists went into print—humor magazines, that sort of thing—and only started performing later. We appeared in public right away."

The "Saturday Night" producer stuck his head into the dressing room and pointed at the flowers on top of a silent TV set in the corner. "Nice flowers," he said. "If they stay alive until Saturday we're in luck. If they die we're in trouble. Like putting canaries in a coal mine. I'll be on the seventeenth floor. See me about the monologue."

Idle continued, "We started doing silly sketches on TV way back in 1963, when we were still undergraduates. People think we're still undergraduates, but we've put in a lot of learning time." He stared at a sandwich, tapped on the bread to see how stale it was and put it back on an end table. "On the Python show we had a live audience, but we thought it held us back. On the Rutland show we practice all day in a studio to get things right. I think you have to have a live audience." He examined the sandwich again, this time testing the texture of the lettuce. "The important thing, though, is to have fun, isn't it? Isn't that what they say? Always have fun. Take this monologue I have to go upstairs and talk about. You know what I really want to do? I'd like to attack the studio audience with a chair and see if anyone stops me. It's a live show, after all, and a little terror would do them some good."

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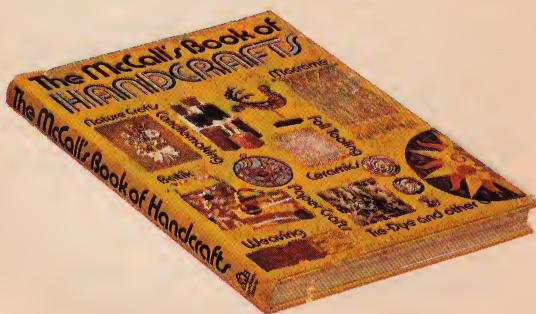
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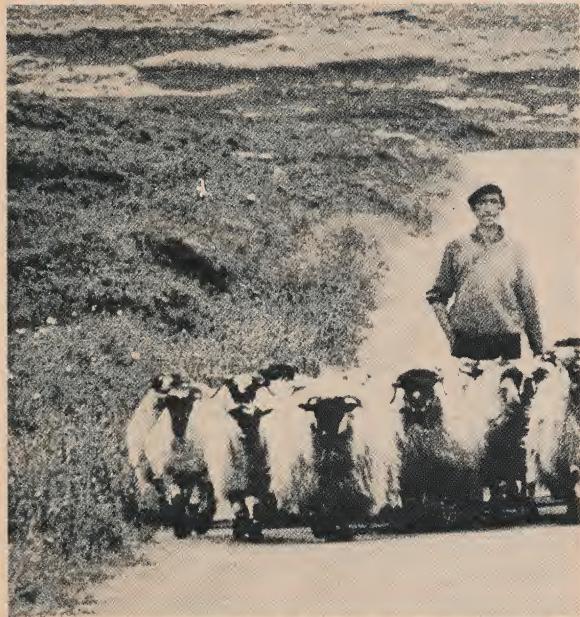
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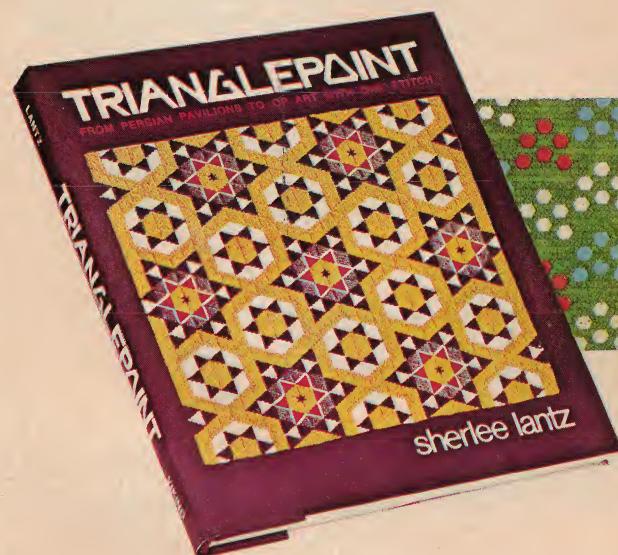
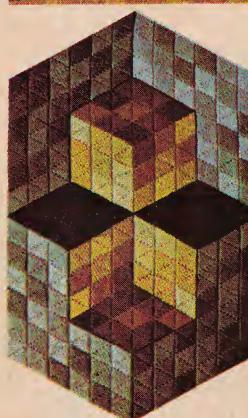
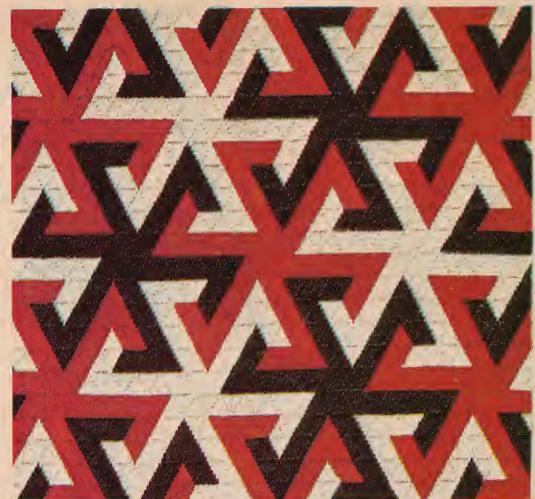
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